



Chewing it over

The dog's breakfast "served up" to Mr. Mulvey in July by the Schools Council has caused a stir in the Department. What to do with the council's recommendations for a new curriculum system of examining at 16-plus is the subject of the dog's breakfast. It is not as if the council's menu allows them to choose a la carte.

It was Michael McCrum, headmaster of Eton College, who called the proposals an "unimpressive dish". Replacing O level and CSE with a single system is thought to be a good thing within the department. But within civil servants and inspectors, there was found there was nothing to chew on in the council's recommendations which were vague on the administration and form of the exam and were not costed in any detail.

Mr. Mulvey went on holiday when Parliament rose, leaving the recommendations with officials and expecting their comments when he returned. "We don't know what to do about them," Jennifer Price, chief information officer, said with unusual candour. Six years of work and more than 40 feasibility studies after deciding that CSE and GCE should be merged, in principle, have left the council with a mixed bag of ingredients which, if properly constituted, might make something appealing.

The dilemma now facing officials is whether they can trust the Schools Council to do the detailed work or, if not, whether they have the resources to do the job themselves. Either way, they want to end up with a final plan which will satisfy Mr. Mulvey's wish to see academic standards maintained, appease the GCE boards' desire to remain in existence and not so outrage the National Union of Teachers and the Schools Council that the department loses teachers' co-operation.

Given all this indecision, it was surprising to see in another newspaper that Mr. Mulvey had decided to "black a left-wing plan to make school exams fully comprehensive". The Daily Mail would have us believe that the proposals to abolish O level and replace it by an exam could fail, are the work of the left, whoever they might be. Alex Wilkinson, the paper's education editor, responded, went on to say that the left had been blocked by Mr. Mulvey's decision to abolish O level and CSE and replace them with a single Certificate of Education. Practically, what the council recommended.

Mr. Mulvey had also decided that grades one to three of the new cer-

while the remaining grades would be equal to CSE. Again precisely what the council suggested.

High children would take a separate exam set by GCE boards while less clever ones would take papers from CSE boards. Not quite what the council had in mind, but near enough.

Over to the department then for a comment on Mr. Mulvey's "decision". "I don't think he knows what he's made up his mind," was the opinion of two spokespeople. "We haven't made up ours," said one.

Mixed bag

A motley collection of publications has sifted up Articles desk during the past month.

First from the Health Education Council there is *Books for Children 5-9*—an annotated bibliography with references to health education. Not taken too seriously, it could be useful—there are, for example, lists of books and stories about going into hospital and about adoption; lists of information books on parts of the anatomy, particularly the heart, lungs, liver etc, and a number of sex education books from the whimsical to the straight forward.

But the later sections are more questionable. Under the heading "concept of self" appear a number of books—*Mr. Small, Mr. Happy, Mr. Uppity*—along with Louise Fatio's *Young Lion*, described as a "case of mistaken self-identity" and Ursula Moray Williams' *Adventures of a Little Wooden Horse*. Mr. Sneezee, however, is relegated to the section on disease and medicine and Mr. Bump to safety. Later still, under relationships and communication appear such diverse works as Hilaire Belloc's selected cautionary verses, Ronald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach* and Elfrida Vipont and Raymond Briggs' *Elephant and the Bad Baby*. Mr. Bump is a bad baby when he doesn't say "please" and "thank you" and does rather risk putting the food of earnestness upon childish pleasures.

And talking of death—only three titles under this heading and two of those deal with the death of pets that it is true what they say about taboo subjects. How about a comeback for the Brothers Grimm?

The second such miscellaneous object is a heavy volume bound with wire between cardboard covers—the cardboard was apparently scrounged from a cheese factory—and decorated with apologetic cuts. *Beneficial Inflation and Little People Liberation*—in day care and other pre-school places has been privately published in the United States by its author, Jay Rick, setting him back some \$4,700 and now circulated by him at \$5.50 a copy (available from Elm Tree Press, PO Box 348, La Crosse, Wisconsin).

The book, in typescript on one side of specially collected waste paper—computer printouts, multiple



"You mean you have a job and you're only visiting? Well, it is good to see you."

choice tests, copies of articles comparing reactions of black professional women with those of their white colleagues—consists of a jumble of trendy pop talk waffle about the means and ends of pre-school care. It is interspersed with ringered sections headed "Just a thought..." such as "Hopefully in this society, we shall one day be able to accept the fact that having a baby doesn't necessarily involve having a husband or being a housewife..." The book substitutes a self-healing, his/hers, him/her, to act over the semantics of sex discrimination in a totally unreadable way—but then readability is not the book's outstanding characteristic. Try for example, "If we are to qualify, in fact, as 'beneficial influencers', our manner of relating to the children entrusted to our care must be such that the various facets of this mode of functioning internalized and eventually included as an integral part of what constitutes the children's estimation of themselves and their reality." Or there is a section on "Avoid over-structuring the meal-time situations and don't spoon-feed" which children, every effort should be made to provide for a meal period as opposed to the specification of a particular meal-moment...

Among the half-digested collection of research, opinion, theory and advice, some straight-forward suggestions—viz "Oh, by the way, never say 'because' when asked for an explanation of a particular restriction. Besides the fact that 'because' is a conjunction and not a reason, the utilization of this excuse-for-an-answer is a function of either not having a good reason for the restriction or not having the time to explain it. If there isn't a restriction, if you haven't the time for an explanation, something's wrong."

And third in the pile. *Sixth in Children's Books. Facts, Figures and Guidelines*, published on Wednesday by the Writers and Readers

Co-operative (19, Friar Road, London NW5, 60p). This booklet contains guidelines for equal treatment of the sexes issued by the American publisher McGraw-Hill for the benefit of their editorial staff and authors in 1974. These include such exhortations as "Like men and boys, women and girls should be portrayed as independent, active, strong, courageous, competent, decisive, persistent, serious-minded and successful. They should appear as logical thinkers, problem solvers, and decision-makers. They should be shown as interested in their work, pursuing a variety of career goals, and being deserving of and receiving public recognition for their accomplishments."

"Sometimes men should be shown as quiet and passive, in fear and indecisive, or illogical and sometimes women should be shown as aggressive, and insensitive. And so on for some considerable length. There are banned words and expressions, for example, the fair sex, 'the weaker sex', 'sweet young thing', 'career girl' or 'career woman'. 'Pioneers moved West' is in. 'Pioneer families moved West' is in.

These guidelines are used by the book's authors to analyse children's books, particularly the so-called "best" books which have won literary prizes and are there are charts and tables to show the extent to which males outnumber females in stories and pictures, there are many instances of the familiar goody goody pretty girls, the passive role while naughty, grumpy boys have all the action. The text comes dangerously near in places to suggesting ponderously that it is wrong for girls and boys to identify themselves as girls and boys, while in fact it is confined to the girls in children's books are. If the analysis provokes a slight feeling of impatient irritation, perhaps that is a measure of the extent to which women have proved their case that they have been subordinated to men economically and socially for generations.

Who's for open government?

As the long, hot summer draws to a close, pressure groups are organising fresh assaults on Parliament in readiness for the Queen's Speech and the trickle of Private Members' Bills.

Letters soliciting support for various reforms are flying in all directions and the TNS has received two such missives from a body with a multitude of a name—the Parliamentary All Party Committee for Freedom of Information and Privacy. Its aim is to replace the Official Secrets Act with a Freedom of Information Act.

One of its supporters is Arthur Lewis, MP for Newham North West, who suggests in his letter that "the Right to Know would help us to restore Britain's greatness." This

capital). He thinks the reason "alien forces controlling the economy" who have mysteriously "order wage restraint" is that they lack a "freedom of information". "The people of this country would meet the national economic crisis if given the full facts."

The need for new legislation is also pronounced by Tom Litterick, MP for Birmingham Solihull, who sent out more than 900 letters to the press—in a more measured tone, however.

The story behind this letter-writing is as follows. The campaign, which began in April 1976, is a drive for more open government, protecting personal privacy against state abuse, which is why the Campaign for Scientific Freedom, which they are victims of the state, are about because of wrong information, about things which they have been unable to correct.

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He is particularly concerned that people should have access to information held about themselves, the state and be able to correct it if it is wrong.

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Harry Golombek

A search of the disadvantaged

McIntosh's study of the 1971 intake of University students—*A degree of difference*—support, and MPs with a real interest in open government. Jonathan Aitken who was in 1971, have refused to have anything to do with the campaign. This group of students the best documented campaign committee offering resign and only one of these, the Committee for Scientific Freedom, which they are victims of the state, are about because of wrong information, about things which they have been unable to correct.

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only to be interested in those with social and educational disadvantage, if this is to be taken narrowly to mean those with least formal education in the worst jobs.

What the OU has done has increased opportunity for those prepared to grasp it. Higher education has still got to be grasped, still striving for. To present it in any other form would be a betrayal of all the OU stands for. The most notable of its achievements so far has been to evince so strong and steady a response from its student members. But if the OU offers a prize to be grasped and striven for, inevitably it is the grasping and the striving who apply. And they are not the people who, on leaving school at 15, did nothing till the OU came along. For the most part they have been making up for any lack of childhood education ever since they left school, by further education, correspondence courses, industrial training, and by their own reading.

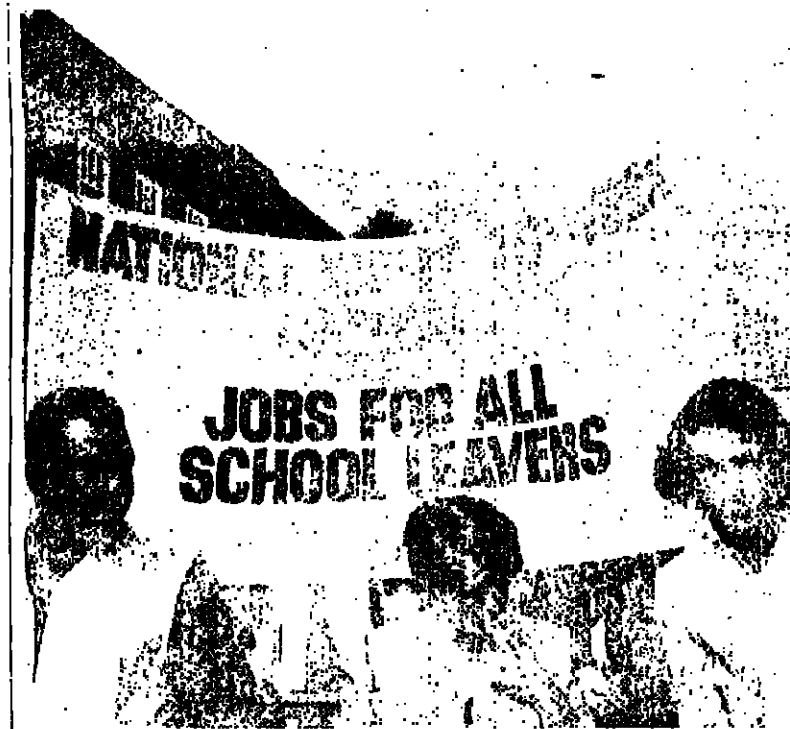
Only an absurdly education-dominated society could call them disadvantaged. Many of them have obviously got the supreme advantage of curious and questioning minds; by the time they actually enrol as OU undergraduates (with whatever credit may be allowed for post-school study), many of them have actually engaged in a great deal more education, and have digested it more fully than callow 18-year-olds processed by 13 years on the educational production line.

The OU, in fact, is not a substitute for the further education system, nor yet a criticism of it. Rather it is a complement to it, reaping where the FE system has sown, providing another, high-quality, well-organized form of higher education for those who want it enough to work for it. Far from measuring its success by its ability to increase from 9 per cent to 100 per cent its intake of manual workers, or from 45 per cent to 100 per cent its ratio of early leavers, it should concentrate on meeting the demand which it has identified.

Whether some of the methods the OU has pioneered could be applied to meeting needs on a wider scale at more modest intellectual levels is another matter. Some kind of open college network must sooner or later have a part to play within the FE system, but must still wait for a government willing to pay more than lip-service to non-advanced further education.

No comment

Teacher for English. The subject is taken to CSE, 16-plus, GCE O and A levels. Opportunities exist to teach at various levels of age and ability according to the successful candidate's strength—from City of Manchester Education Committee Bulletin to Schools and Colleges.



Unemployed school leavers joined the ranks of the Right to Work campaign in picketing the TUC conference at Brighton this week.

TUC lash councils cuts in spending

by Stephen Cohen

A bitter attack on local education authorities who are cutting teachers to save on the rates was launched at the TUC in Brighton this week.

The congress condemned them for making "unwarranted cuts" in spite of money made available through the rate support grant to maintain staffing standards at last year's level.

Mr Alf Widdows, president of the National Union of Teachers, said the truth was emerging that schools were being faced with a serious cutback in resources and staffing. Local authorities were further reducing their budgets and standards were threatened, he said.

"At least £1,500m will have been removed from education budgets between 1974 and 1978," he said. "One child in five in primary schools is in a class of more than 35 pupils at a time when more than 25,000 teachers are without jobs."

Britain lagged behind most other advanced countries in terms of the proportion of gross national pro-

duct spent on education and was almost at the bottom of the league table for post-school opportunities.

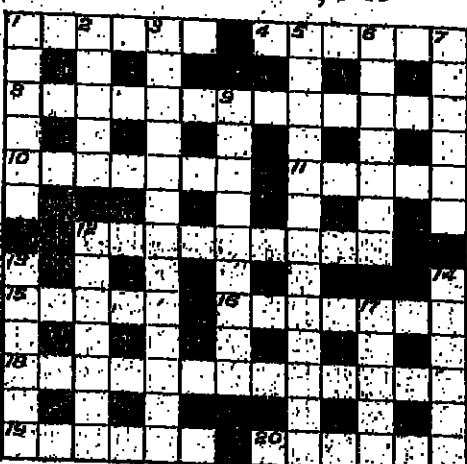
Mr Len Cooper of the National Association of Schoolmasters' Union of Women Teachers said some local authorities were deliberately choosing not to reach the staffing targets permitted by the rate support grant settlement. Sitings and demonstrations were not the answer. A simple application of a trade union principle—refusal to take on extra work—would create more jobs, he said. Action by the NAS-UTW had already ensured that thousands more teachers were being employed (page 3).

It was perhaps expected that Conservative strongholds such as Surrey, Cumbria and Lancashire should try to cut teachers but he said it was disappointing to find a Labour-controlled authority such as Barnsley also on the list.

Mr Cooper answered charges of unprofessionalism by asking if it was unprofessional to deny colleagues the right to employment.

continued on page 3

Crossword No 1,049



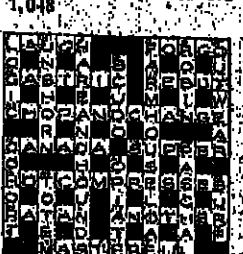
Across

- 1 This comprises (6)
- 2 Cock's (6)
- 3 When soft causes (4)
- 4 Many different (4)
- 5 Moving up (4)
- 6 Unsettled (4)
- 7 Why (4)
- 8 Quavers (7)
- 9 As heart every day (4)
- 10 Runway (4)
- 11 Runway (4)
- 12 Fashionably unfettered in competitive (4)
- 13 Then portents pay (4)
- 14 Produces fruit, after (4)
- 15 One (4)
- 16 One (4)
- 17 One (4)
- 18 One (4)
- 19 One (4)
- 20 One (4)
- 21 One (4)

Down

- 1 Mechanical man (5)
- 2 The daily round, maybe, or a thousand (5)
- 3 Came for interior (4)
- 4 Dealings (4)
- 5 Where gardeners are (4)
- 6 Pleasant enough not to lose all (4)
- 7 Tumultuous fellow from Brazil (4)
- 8 Suggests the activity of one who has (4)
- 9 A thing (4)
- 10 Never look backward (4)
- 11 And tell the other (4)
- 12 A (4)
- 13 A (4)
- 14 A (4)
- 15 A (4)
- 16 A (4)
- 17 A (4)
- 18 A (4)
- 19 A (4)
- 20 A (4)
- 21 A (4)

Solution to puzzle No 1,048



Chess

WITHOUT A PLAN

It is a fact of human nature that most games in chess are lost through blunders. At least this is so if one listens to the losers. But, once the games are examined one realizes that almost as many are lost for want of a plan.

This, too, is presumably part of human nature since it is a phenomenon that affects all classes of player and, conversely, the great players are great because they form just and true plans and never drift as we ordinary mortals tend to do at the drop of a hat.

It is, White, you start off without a plan, then quite inevitably you lose the initiative and in no time at all you are struggling for equality. And those players with the black pieces, who are likewise without a plan nearly always lose them. It is a sad reproduction in collections of brevities or miniature games.

Long experience has taught me that the saying "better a bad plan than no plan at all" has much truth in it. A bad plan can at least succeed in its own right, but a plan that is no plan at all is a direct ticket to the land of lost games.

Consider the following game from the recent British Championship at Portsmouth. The player with the white pieces, Andrew Whiteley, is a strong player who has represented his country with considerable success in Olympiads and he also came second at Portsmouth. But in this particular game, played in the first round before, presumably, he had found his touch, he soon loses because of his failure to form any sort of plan.

White: A. J. Whiteley. Black: E. Rayner. Q.F. Neo-Grünfeld Defence.



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Harry Golombek

Doomwatch days

Lancaster University (left) was the setting for an outspoken meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. With the state of the economy in their minds, Britain's scientists and engineers were particularly hard on those among their numbers dedicated to pure science and research that did not put the economic interests of the country first. There were calls for more down-to-earth research and a greater emphasis on training technicians. One vice-chancellor even demanded a return to an unashamedly elitist education system for putting young people off jobs in industry.

First for firing?

Oxfordshire's teaching force is to be cut by one in ten to save £3.25m from the education budget. Nearly 200 jobs can be saved by leaving posts vacant.

Tipple tattle

Two reports this week allege heavy drinking by schoolchildren. But the anti-alcoholism bodies say that public houses are becoming exaggerated.

Extra: Children's literature

Twelve pages of reviews and articles

Tameside: all over bar the shouting

With the selection process finished at last, only the last batch of appeals still to be heard, every 11-year-old in Tameside should now be in school. But the teachers still have plenty of problems.

Learning for life

Gabriel Chapan and Harry Rée offer some contrasting ideas on how the curriculum should be shaped in response to the world outside school.

Cockpit to plaine howse

Heather Nail on the Cockpit theatre summer project

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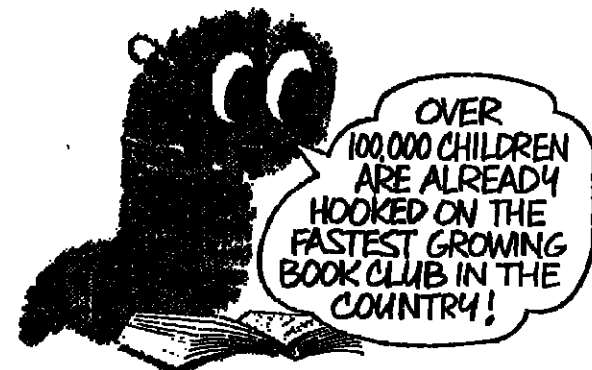
minority groups call for language rights

Features, page 19
Lyons field Banks on creative work in second-language classes.
Books, pages 23-27
Nora Entwistle on evaluating learning; society, government, education, English literature.
Resources, pages 28-30
John May on science laboratories; Frances Farrer on EdTech; Paul McGee on computers.
Talkback, page 31
Peter Fleming on teaching practice; Rosamund Shreeves on creative dance; Vivienne Parfitt and Mike Graham on co-acting teachers' workshops.

Classified ad Index

The price of The Times Educational Supplement goes up from 12p to 15p this week. New postal subscription rates are: 12 months, £12.20; 6 months, £9.00; 3 months, £4.50. See back page for Mirmall rates abroad.

مكتبة في الأصل



If you think children need an incentive to read - join the club.

The Bookworm Club is a paperback book club for children of 8-12 years, jointly presented by Hotters of Cambridge and E. J. Arnold of Leeds. Top titles - twice a term selected from leading publishers. Bookworm Bulletins - 4 colourful pages twice a term for children. Club extras - for the children, 10% cash bonus for schools on the value of all books ordered. Editorial guidance - reading guides and adult opinion. Fill in the coupon for full details plus a colourful classroom poster and 40 Bookworm Bulletins.

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British Association-1



Facing up to hard facts: Sir John Baker, British Association president, at Lancaster.

Pure science takes a pounding

At the opening of the British Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Lancaster last week, the president, Sir John Baker, warned of the folly of worshipping graven images like pure science when engineers were the ones with God-like powers of creativity.

Though engineers have often talked this way about the depressed status of their profession, this meeting produced a blast of similar sentiments from a wide range of speakers. They complained about the growth of the humanities and the need for more applied research and better technical education below degree level. Many seemed to want less capacity for social comment and more for producing the goods.

Sir Alex Smith, for instance, who is chairman of the Schools Council as well as director of Manchester Polytechnic, was among those who regretted the priority given to the expansion of higher education while technical education for those who left school at 16 was neglected.

The theme of the education section - post-compulsory education - meant Lancaster University's school of education, which contains an institute devoted to the study of just that was allowed to blow its trumpet, and it turned out to be in harmony with the views being expressed elsewhere in the conference. Professor Alec Ross, the director of the school, made it clear that higher education had done a good job but now it was time to attend to the priorities of the 16 to 19-year-olds.

Others, though, were not so sure that such a good job had been done, and they were looking for a reversal rather than a change of priorities. Among several calls for grants for 16-year-olds was a suggestion that they should be financed by replacing grants for university students with loans.

Back to elitism and expertise

Schools had much to answer for in Britain's industrial decline, according to two vice-chancellors.

Because of their pre-occupation with the needs of the less able and their bias against manufacturing industry, fewer brilliant, creative minds for essential design and development work were being produced. Dr Charles Carter, vice-chancellor of Lancaster University, told the economics section.

This together with the high pay available in the public sector and taxation and incomes policies which prevented high ability from being attracted to where it was most needed, meant that fewer first rate brains were being created, distributed properly or even kept within the country.

He recommended the adoption of an unashamedly elitist education for the highest level of ability - not of course, specially elitist, but providing special educational resources. He also wanted special efforts to lead

Many of the views expressed were strong assertions but weak in substantiation. There were no figures, for instance, demonstrating the need for more technologists, or the technologists' bidding. Dr Charles Carter, economist and vice-chancellor of Lancaster, said there was no increase in engineers' pay to suggest shortages. He thought the trouble was the quality of the people education turned out. A schools put people off the sort of activities make the country its living. He wanted us to comprehensive schooling and the nation to accept that some abilities were worth more than others.

Clearly these concerns did not come to the fore simply because it was the engineers' to have the presidency of the BAAS. But apparent unanimity among those who should not be taken as a sign of total agreement throughout the BAAS generally, let alone in the wider scientific community.

Although the association's meeting is far removed (and diffuse) an occasion to emphasise disagreement, there were those who opposed these calls to action (or reaction, depending on your point of view). Professor Robert Audley of University College, London, used his presidential address to the psychology section to state that, whatever else they were, ivory towers were made of durable and reliable stuff.

Forecasting a rising clamour against science research and training, he said exploration of man was needed as exploration of North Sea oil fields. Surviving was important but so was the knowledge about ourselves in our world that made survival worthwhile.

Reports by Bob Doe

Earn your keep, says Sir Alex

Instead of moaning about cuts, those responsible for education should do something about making it earn its keep. Sir Alex Smith, chairman of the Schools Council and director of Manchester Polytechnic, told the general section.

He said the decline in education spending was shadowed in the Government's White Paper on public expenditure reflected widespread dissatisfaction with the way education had been run. "I think within the education service there is a desperate need for a little more common honesty and for some self-appraisal. We ought to be asking: how did the present economic conditions come about? How much is attributable to education?"

Instead of loud protestations against cuts in public expenditure, maybe we ought to be doing something to increase the resources available for public spending. The available economic situation is so serious that it calls for a really thoughtful constructive response. A fuller version of Sir Alex Smith's speech appears on page 2.

British Association-2

Practice makes theory perfect

Psychologists may at last be on the verge of understanding the difficulties of the backward reader, declared Professor Robert Audley, of University College London, and this year's president of the psychology section.

In an all-day session devoted to experimental studies in reading, Professor Audley said good theories could be the most powerful weapons in the attack on practical difficulties. Nowhere was this more true than in reading, where the fashions for theories changed like fashions in clothes.

"Reading is a fantastically complex skill, incorporating diverse sub-skills at many levels of function ranging from the precise scanning of the page by the eye to the comprehension of obscure passages of prose," he said. "There is a daunting variety of experts who can tell us something useful about reading and an even greater number who think they can."

Psychologists had been very good at testing out isolated facts about human behaviour but not so good at organizing them into coherent theories, and communicating them to others. But now, he said, a body of theory was evolving "which is both guiding current research and offers clear possibilities for understanding the difficulties of the backward reader".

It was vital to have some kind of theory to understand the processes underlying even the simplest functions. "Vast amounts" of research had been done in the first half of this century into the best way to teach arithmetic which paid no attention at all to the way children did it. It was assumed they simply remembered things like three plus two equals five. It had recently been found that what they did was count the smallest figure on the fingers.

"A purely empirical approach to education is mistaken," he said. This applied equally to reading. The endless controversies over the relative merits of "look-say" and phonic methods of teaching reading would never be resolved by simply comparing performances. What was needed was a "clear, theoretical understanding of the processes involved".

An emphasis on the recognition of words in terms of their total configuration hardly seems suited to young children who are known to have difficulties in organizing complex stimulus components into a larger percept. On the other hand, it is necessary for anyone who favours a phonic method to show how a satisfactory transition to the adult skill can be achieved.

The experimental work described in this session would show it was a mistake to view either reading or writing as a single process.

He talked about some of his own work in which poor readers seemed to have great difficulty in naming the letters shown to them. They had no difficulty in remembering what they looked like, and could correctly select out those letters appearing in their names. They could say which pairs of letters shown them were the same and which different, so their difficulty was not related to what they saw.

In my view we can make substantial progress in the understanding of reading difficulties by studying the way in which we identify letters and associate speech sounds with them. Learning the names and sounds of letters involves many of the processes which are significant to reading in general. After all, the ability to name letters was the best predictor of reading success.

Professor Audley had some observations on dyslexia, and the research that had been done on it. "This is a concept which has to be treated with much caution. There was some statistical evidence of the existence of a specific reading disability - children who were backward not just for their ages but for their intelligence."

This group also showed more signs of nervous disturbance and left-right confusions. Professor Audley said there were serious statistical objections to this research, and even the researchers did not find the cause for a single dyslexia condition very compelling.

They were able to identify which of two other words were similar in shape or meaning to the original word. They could also say whether it was a word or a meaningless jumble of letters.

Dr Marcel said this suggested the words must have been unconsciously identified, at least to the point where they were associated with other words, and perhaps even to the point of understanding.

"Once we have learnt to read, analysis of words appears to be automatic." If the word given was "palm" both possible meanings were registered, whereas only one could be entertained at a time consciously.

"If a person is asked to read a passage or a series of single words as in the Schenell test of reading, an error or failure to give a response does not necessarily mean he cannot or has not read the word."

Reading power improved by guesses in context

When children read aloud half at a word teachers should encourage them to guess it from the context rather than spell it out from the letters in the word.

The hold-up may be in the children's conscious understanding of the word's meaning rather than with its shape, sound, or spelling which may already have been unconsciously analysed. These are the tentative conclusions of some research into conscious and unconscious phases of reading by Dr Tony Marcel of the Medical Research Council's applied psychology unit in Cambridge.

He found that adults who were shown words so rapidly that they were not conscious of having seen them, were able to give correct answers to questions about these words, even though they were not consciously aware of what the words were.

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What reading strategy a teacher should use depended on the stage the child was at, but if the meaning of the word had already been analysed, the context would help to trigger off the correct response.

Context was important but not everything when a child was still learning to read, said Dr Linda Murray, a psychology lecturer at Brunel University. Her work suggested that both context and word analysis were important for teaching reading.

In experiments with first and second-year Juniors she had found them just as likely to point out spelling mistakes as errors of context. "This was important," she said. "In recent years there has been a tendency to say since skilled readers rely so heavily on context it is counter-productive to teach graphic analysis."

This reliance on context made it difficult for skilled readers to pick out mistakes when proof reading, but even good readers at the ages of seven and eight concentrated on the graphic features of the words.

In her experiments Dr Murray had found children could use "long range" contextual information - assumptions about meaning based on information in previous sentences. But poor readers tended not to do so as much.

Children's reading matter should be analysed for its contextual content so that particular passages could be used to encourage skills children were tending not to use.

Dr Murray distinguished between syntax (rules about word order) and semantics (the meaning behind words).

Bad spellers neglect the eyes for the ears

Bad spellers get nowhere with a do-as-you-please spelling system. Good readers who are bad at spelling need to read correctly spelt words and often cannot read their own misspellings.

These are the findings of Dr Uta Frith of the Medical Research Council's developmental research unit in London. She has been looking at the extent to which reading and writing are two sides of the same coin, and she told the psychology section that good

spellers often did not have to learn spelling at all. They saw the word once and then remembered it forever.

In a group of 30 12-year-olds she found some that were good readers but bad spellers. Their spelling tended to be guided by the sound rather than the look of the word and, since less than half of English words were spelt phonetically, this meant a lot of mistakes.

Those who were good readers and spellers made few mistakes, whereas

those who were bad at both made mistakes that did not even sound right.

It was as though the "good readers/bad spellers" read by "eye" but wrote by "ear". Dr Frith said, "What I mean is an 'inner eye' that stores the visual images of words and an 'inner ear' that stores the sounds of words."

Normally, when reading and writing, these two memories worked together but with this group the visual side did all the work in reading while the sound memory was used in writing.

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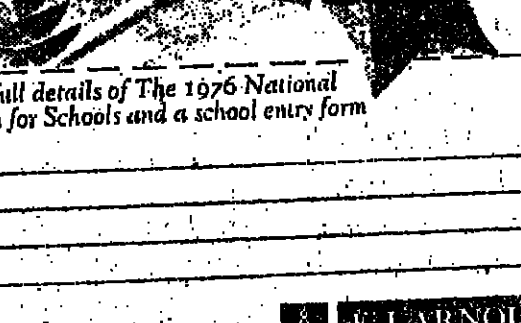
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Pidgins come home to roost

The conference of the Society of Caribbean Linguistics in Guyana last month had practical lessons for anyone trying to teach black children. Here MICHAEL PYE of The Sunday Times traces the language of black people in Britain today back to the slave plantations and beyond.



Illustration courtesy of Times

The black language of Britain, Birmingham or Notting Hill can mystify white teachers. Its vocabulary draws on African, Dutch, English, French, Portuguese sources—all the powers and vicissitudes that played musical chairs in the Caribbean's colonial period.

Its phrases and ideas often have no Western equivalent, although they have African cousins; the language is used for complex social rituals—rich insult, for example, which white people least expect. And, above all, it has an idiosyncratic grammar which even teachers easily dismiss as "broken" or "bad" or "lazy" English.

For a "bad" language, full of "creolisms", the grammar of black English is curiously systematic. It is certainly different from BBC English and less classroom equivalent. It makes sense to see it as a language with traces of a strong African influence, blurred by years of slavery and migration but still discernible.

The black talk of Britain or Detroit may be the last link in a chain, historical and geographical, which stretches back through the slavery islands of the Caribbean to the slave coast of West Africa and its many indigenous languages. How this chain of language work was linked last month at the conference of the Society for Caribbean Linguistics in Georgetown, Guyana. Mr. John Holm, a research student at University College London, argued that Caribbean languages and their descendants were strongly influenced by the African native tongues of the first creole speakers.

His argument has clear practical effects. If he is right, black English had to be treated as a language with real distinctions from classroom English and other European languages. The better teachers understand it, the easier it will be to provide black children with the necessary resource of standard English.

Mr. Holm's paper dealt with inner city black vernacular, its possible African roots, and the language in and between pidgins and creoles. These are the languages formed when two cultures meet. European slaves in slaves and slave-laborers; the black backgrounds, needed a language to talk among themselves.

First, pidgins grew up, simple ways to put over basic needs and orders and attitudes. Then, as speakers of pidgin married and had only pidgin as a common language, more complex needs produced more languages—creoles. These drew on all the linguistic resources of their new native speakers and went with them to the slave islands and mainland plantations.

Orthodox linguists have chased European roots for Caribbean creoles—especially Portuguese—eloquently. But John Holm argues, "at the very least, we have to take a careful look at the languages of West Africa; the slaves came from there, after all. Scholars have been handing out advice to look at Africa for generations, but still seem to concentrate on slave arguments about European origins."

He started his quest with the use of the verb "to be" in the black vernacular of American cities. Studies in both Detroit and New York revealed that the verb was more likely to be left out before an adjective than before a noun. "He knows" was more likely to be "He knows" than "He knows" before a noun.

before a noun ("He's a teacher") Holm examined texts from two languages closer to creole—Gullah, the dialect of the offshore southern islands of the United States, and Jamaican creole. The same pattern emerged.

Nor was it a universal pattern wherever creoles or pidgins formed through cultural contact: Italian and Spanish workers in Germany speak a new-born language which behaves quite differently. The slugs seemed to point back to West Africa.

Old surveys of major slave coast languages showed that Fula, Manding, Wolof, Ewe, Yoruba, Igbo and Efik all had a common feature which would help explain the verb "to be" disappeared in Caribbean creole before an adjective—none of those African languages used the verb at all. The Yoruba word for beautiful is *lewa*; but the "ful" is simply to add a pronoun to the adjective. What look like adjectives can also act as verbs.

Yoruba was not an arbitrary choice. Nipping documents from the eighteenth century show tens of thousands of Yorubas were brought to Jamaica, and Yoruba words still survive in Jamaican creole. Yorubas were also sold to plantations in Brazil, Cuba and coastal Georgia.

Holm found that the lack of a verb "to be" before most adjectives was a feature of black languages from the languages and pidgins of Cameroon to the black vernacular of Detroit—with the verb "to be" creeping in slowly as the creole comes closer to white man's standard classroom English.

The same feature also occurs in creoles with French vocabulary—as in Guyana French or Guianese Creole; and in creoles based on Portuguese and Spanish. The link, he argues, must be African.

In fact, the apparent "mistake" in black English turns out to be the product of a system of complex English version. Yoruba has eight subtly distinguished ways to say "is" one of which is to build the verb into the adjective.

Holm followed his examination of the copula with nineteen other general language similarities between Brixton and West Africa—demonstrating links, he claims, which would be impossible to show by involved often take their vocabulary from different European sources. Yet, he argues, the syntax of the creole, and it should be a continuum—with their African parents at one end, and their European parents at the other.

The Georgetown conference heard papers on the African origins of creole phrases, too; and a series of detailed papers that will have direct relevance to teachers of black children in Britain. Among key points were:

- When creole speakers "hypercorrect" they may be following a systematic rule, not just getting the English wrong.
- Typical is the child who, told to put the "a" on "he knows", puts it on every time.

he uses the verb, producing "he knows it" and "I know it". Roberts, of the University of West Indies at Barbados, that the over-correction here is an example when an action is repeated.

Even in islands like Nevis, where standard English is more heavily spoken, it may be the cause of some among children. Lenore E. of Bryn Mawr, suggested the Caribbean island gives its form of English a little bit of that mysterious standard which may produce great stress.

Individual creole speakers may have a wide range of very different speech styles and forms. Valerie Edwards, report time, linguistic changes in adolescent boys were also "gaff" (relaxed talk to friends), "sur" (colourful talk for the opposite sex), "friendly" (friendly but competitive), "overbearing" (talk to friends) or "lure" (no holding match).

holm spoke the changes in syntax were extremely complex.

The standard dictionary, Jamaican English is to be published in a revised form, like the dictionary of creole (from creole, a word for rough, tough, to food (from "bugger-up" it, thus spilled or smashed), any vigorous sudden action (making course food fast), and (meaning) plain, related, not to the English but to Portuguese).

Philip Venning reports from Cambridge on the annual meeting of prep school heads

State aid plan for private sector

The Government could bring the independent schools into the state system if it financed them in the same way as universities, said Mr. Michael Timpson, chairman of the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools, last week.

He told the association's annual conference in Cambridge that under the university system of finance, parents and students were charged fees on a sliding scale. The Government discussed policy with the universities and directed the Treasury to pay for the necessary teachers' and buildings. But the universities were left free to get on with their job.

This could be adapted to independent schools. In many other countries the Government helped the private sector. In the United States, private schools were eligible for grants if they carried out federal objectives, such as helping the disadvantaged. In Denmark they received taxpayers' money in the same way as local authorities, if they met standards laid down by the Government.

During the year the prep schools had been discussing proposals from the association's districts on how to attract more pupils. These included an earlier common entrance examination at the age of 11 and a more cohesive curriculum from 11 to O level.

After the meeting Mr. Timpson said that over the years the common entrance examination had become easier. Latin was now voluntary, and new mathematics was easier. French was the subject most children still found difficult. Even though they travelled abroad often, they read less.

Mr. Mark Hankey, who has just retired as secretary of the common entrance, said that there was a feeling over the years that too much information was crammed into the examination. They now required a more intelligent use of slightly fewer facts. The examination should represent only two rather than three years of a five-year O level course.

But parents of children in all independent schools saved the Government about £200m a year in current spending plus about the same amount in capital spending. In addition, fees from overseas pupils brought in more than £11m a year in foreign exchange.

Though the number of pupils in prep schools fell this year by about 1,200, the first fall for 10 years, the prep schools were attracting a higher proportion of that age group than ever. State schools were feeling the effects of the falling birth rate more fiercely.

Between 1973 and 1975 the number of parents withdrawing children from prep schools to send them to state schools nearly doubled. But this was merely a rise of from 1 to 2 per cent of all prep school pupils.

The rise was the result of financial pressure and the growth of middle schools. "It cannot be construed as a devastating change of heart," he said.

Parents would become even greater if the expected reduction of the Taylor Inquiry into school governors were accepted. The committee is likely to recommend that a quarter of the places on school governing bodies should go to parents.

Dame Kathleen doubted teachers would like this much. Parents' interest and involvement in schools was short-lived. "The parent is only there for five years or at most 10 years." With a few exceptions they were bound to take a short-term view unlike teachers who might be there for 40 years.

The result against teachers' power was part of a wider challenge to experts of all sorts. Because experts had promised so much in the sixties and had now been seen to be wrong, they were no longer trusted.

Dame Kathleen also warned the prep school heads to forget about educational vouchers or schemes to get tax exemption for fees. Life in the maintained sector of education was so rough that fundamental principles were being eroded because the money was not there. There would certainly not be anything spare for the private sector. Vouchers were a non-starter because they could never be introduced piece meal.

Experienced serving teachers may be seconded for salary for this new, one-year, full-time course which provides a qualification in the teaching of deaf and partially-hearing children. Write W. Curr, Educational, The University, Birmingham B15 2TT.

Way opens up for more parent power

Teachers have not fully recognized the increasing demand from parents for a say in the curriculum and the running of schools, Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw, former chairman of Manchester education committee, told the conference.

Independent schools had always had to consider parents' interests and this was now becoming true of the maintained system. The legal battle in Lancashire had challenged the power of the teachers, she said. "For the first time teacher power has been broken." The doors for a take-over by parents were now open.

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Children Act takes only a tiny step forward

Children in council care will start to benefit before the end of the year from some sections of the 1975 Children Act though the most important parts of the Act have been put on ice until the changes they suggest can be paid for.

A government circular released this week announces that parents of children who have been in care for six months or more may be asked to give 28 days' notice that they want to take their child away. This is intended to stop children being removed from care abruptly and to allow time to make proper preparation for their return home.

Local authorities will be able automatically to assume parental rights and duties over children who have been in their care or in the care of a voluntary organization for three years or more, though parents will be able to appeal against such a decision. And foster parents who have looked after a child for five years will be able to start adoption proceedings knowing that the child cannot be taken away from them without a court's permission.

Children will get a certain amount of separate representation in court proceedings. If they are the subject of unopposed proceedings for changing or discharging care or supervision orders, the court can order that they should not be represented by their parents. An experienced social worker or probation officer not employed by the local authority would become approved agencies.

A great deal hangs on this. It puts the voluntary organizations in a state of uncertainty, because they still did not know whether they would become approved agencies.

concerned will normally be appointed to look after the child's interests. A system of counselling for adopted people over 18 who want to find out about their origins is being set up by the General Register Office. They will have to see a counsellor before being allowed to see their birth certificate.

As from next year, abandoned children whose identity is not known can be registered at the General Register Office and given a normal birth certificate. People over 18 in this category can apply for registration themselves.

Mothers of illegitimate children will be able to enter the father's name in the child's birth record without the father's consent.

But other sections of the Act are too expensive to embark on in the present economic climate, the circular says. These include a statutory adoption service and new proceedings for freeing a child for adoption. A spokesman for the Association of British Adoption and Fostering Agencies, whose members include all local authorities and the 70 or so voluntary societies in Britain, said it was disappointing no data had been given in the circular for starting the statutory adoption service.

A great deal hangs on this. It puts the voluntary organizations in a state of uncertainty, because they still did not know whether they would become approved agencies.

places, about a third of which will be full time. At the moment, counting the new places, it has about 19,000. Full-time places account for a quarter of the total.

The Department of Education and Science gave the ILEA permission to spend nearly £1m on nursery building last year and the year before. But because some authorities turned down their allocations, the ILEA was able to offer the ILEA a further £1,300,000. This year, its allocation is £460,000.

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Students hold fire on sit-in

There will be no sit-ins at education colleges when term begins this month. By students may resort to their campaign against teacher unemployment and public spending cuts builds up.

This was the policy agreed by 250 delegates from more than 100 colleges at the National Union of Students' annual teacher education conference held in Edge Hill College of Education, Ormskirk, last week. More than 140 colleges in England, Scotland and Wales were occupied for varying periods towards the end of last term.

The conference threw out—by more than two votes to one—a left-wing motion calling for occupations to be resumed on the first day of the autumn term. At the same time it rejected a plea from the Conservative student to limit the campaign exclusively to teacher unemployment. It resolved to aim for maximum student support and trade union cooperation in the campaign against cuts in social services.

Action will include highlighting occupations of local authority buildings and a lobby of Parliament early next term. The NUS will take part in a "week of action" organised by the south-east region of the TUC from November 8 to 12, and a national demonstration on November 10.

It also passed a resolution that students on teaching practice should support NUT policy by not covering for absent teachers. Students will try to emphasize the problems facing students leaving college at school open days.

The argument in favour of re-suming sit-ins as soon as term began was put by Mr. Mick Archer, of Coventry college of education and Mr. Andy Duggan, NUS executive member in an amendment to a cusa.

Both maintained that occupations at the beginning of the academic year would be far more effective than at the end. "All kinds of excuses, such as exams, are given at the end of the year. No such excuses are possible at the beginning," Mr. Archer said. "He thought it the only way to involve teachers who were unemployed. They have nothing else to do but fight for a job," he remarked.

Mr. Duggan insisted that occupations started now would be much more effective. "Nothing concrete for the unemployed was won from last term's campaign," he said. "Direct action was necessary."

"What do you do, when the vast majority of the trade union movement supports the Tory party?" he asked. People scoffed at the Right to Work campaign but no one else was creating local committees of the unemployed. "You have to fight with those actually fighting," he declared.

Mr. Mick Archer from Birmingham polytechnic, criticized both the National Union of Teachers and the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education for their lack of leadership. "In its resolution to the TUC Congress, the NUT has left out its resolution on class sizes of over 30," he said. "Last year it was in."

Mr. John Dennis, of King Alfred's College, Winchester, opposing the amendment, warned against the danger of broadening the campaign too far. "Most people are incapable of the doctrinaire leap of faith which would identify the trade union leaders in this country as the prime targets of our campaign," he said. "Miss Diana Mead, Sheffield, could see no value in demonstrating against the NUT."

Students should try to involve the NUT and NATFHE and aim to increase public support.

Mr. Andrew Elliot, Oxford University, said a member of the Federation of Conservative Students, said last year's campaign was unsuccessful because most people supported the need for some cut. "We would lose the support we won last term if we called for an end to it," he said. "Our campaign is concentrated on teacher unemployment."

Flashback: family sit-in at Rachel McMillan College in 1976

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Links with trade unions at NUS strategy would be less than last year. A new link would be arriving in the campaign at the union's first target.

Neither Miss Slippman nor Charles Clarke, NUS secretary, would be precise on what they would be occupied. "It was something decided during the year," he said. "The campaign would be the same level as last term. It would be a campaign to get into the colleges, not to get into the colleges."

'Staff supported protest' 'Camouflage of job creation'

The students' protest action against education cuts last term was supported by the vast majority of teachers, the conference's guest speaker declared.

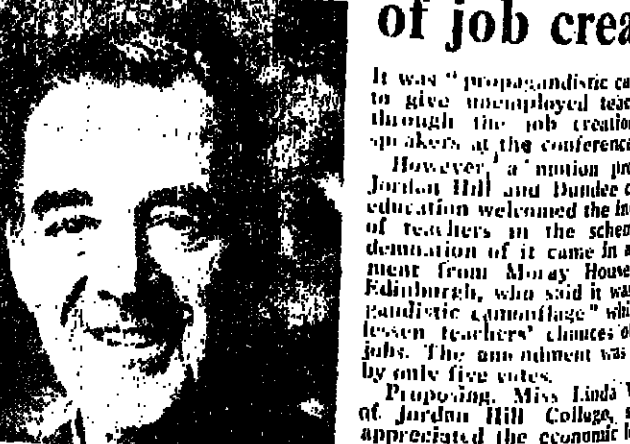
Mr. Francis Cammaerts, principal of Rollo Education College, Exmouth, and vice-president of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, assured the conference that NATFHE's reaction to the protest had been warm and cordial.

"In my experience, you find the vast majority of people in the teaching side of education supporting you," he said. "You drew into the action many thousands of students who had not previously taken any action. I am surprised some of you think it was not very successful."

Mr. Cammaerts said both the union and the NUS appeared to argue that education should not be cut in the same way as other social services. "I know it looks like that to our colleagues in these services," he said.

There had been a lot of misunderstanding about the so-called 20 per cent failure rate that it was said the Government was cutting. "There's no machinery stopping which can enforce that," he said.

Mr. Cammaerts added that for years the cry had been for a gradual profession diversification, and that the profession had not been doing anything to help. "There was no sign of any flexibility within the profession," he said. "As far as the holder of the profession was concerned, it was a closed shop."



Francis Cammaerts

any individual institution," Mr. Cammaerts stressed. "But we must fight any suggestion that any individual institution will have fewer the next year."

Units in which teachers were educated were already far too small. It had been said that a 20 per cent of teacher training would be devoted to in-service nobody is prepared to come out and make a policy on this," he said.

Mr. Cammaerts added that for years the cry had been for a gradual profession diversification, and that the profession had not been doing anything to help. "There was no sign of any flexibility within the profession," he said. "As far as the holder of the profession was concerned, it was a closed shop."

He condemned the scheme as expensive in terms of money and of only a temporary work. Mr. Jim Dixon, also of the House, agreed. "Unless the Government was able to do something to help the people who were being cut, it was a waste of money," he said. "What was really needed was a new injection of capital into the social services."

NUS teacher education conference

Reports by Bert Lodge

Attack on Tameside Tories

Telegrams supporting the Tameside teacher unions and the local Labour party were dispatched following a resolution affirming the conference's faith in the comprehensive ideal.

Proposing the motion, Miss Sue Newton, Sussex University, said she had gone to school in Tameside. "When I went to the secondary modern they put us in four forms or streams," she said.

"There was domestic—that was for cooks and cleaners—clerical, academic, and general, a polite name for the factory girls. It was just the same for my mum before me."

Miss Newton, whose father, Mr. George Newton, is a Tameside Labour councillor, insisted that the local Tories did not say what they would do with comprehensive education in their election manifesto. "Teachers' contracts have been scrapped," she said.

Mr. Andrew Elliot, Oxford University, said that while he did not agree with what the Tameside Tories were doing, local authorities must have the right to decide what sort of education they wanted.

"The Tameside council may not have laid down details in their manifesto but they were returned in the elections and they had a mandate to do what they have done," he said. "If they had waited a year the comprehensive system would have become more entrenched."

Mr. John Murray, Liverpool polytechnic, replied that the Federation of Conservative Students was talking of a few liberties for a few councils. "Education is there to change the system, not fit people into it," he said.

French seek backing in battle over union grant

Leaders of France's largest student union, which has its Government grant stopped without warning three weeks ago, travelled to Ormskirk to appeal for a gesture of solidarity from the National Union of Students.

Mme Alice Sauher-Selitz, Minister for University Education, announced last month that the 80,000 French Students received in 1975 would not be repeated this year.

She accused the union of intimidating students to go on strike, damaging university property and opening the door to "intellectual and physical terrorism."

Mr. Jean Luc Mano, UNEF president, said the union had started legal proceedings against the minister for defamation of character. "It was the first time a student union had taken an education minister to court in France."

The real reason for Mme Sauher-Selitz's decision was the "unhappy" vigorous opposition to the reforms in higher education, he said. These were aimed at rationalizing student numbers in certain faculties to take account of national needs, and gave French students something in common with their English colleagues, M. Mano said.

The sum involved—about £10,000 House, agreed. "Unless the Government was able to do something to help the people who were being cut, it was a waste of money," he said. "What was really needed was a new injection of capital into the social services."

The village that bought its own school

The phrase "community school" acquired an unexpected dimension in the Republic this month with the news that a small country village had actually bought its own school.

In normal Irish parlance, a community school is a new, purpose-built educational institution serving a new housing area in one of the major cities or amalgamating several smaller, non-viable schools in a rural area. The inhabitants of the County Mayo village of Balla, however, have turned the terminology on its head by raising £14,000 in a week to buy for themselves a local secondary school which was just about to be closed by the religious order which owned it.

The school was founded by a Roman Catholic religious order, the Sisters of St. Louis, in 1918, and is in the former manor house of the local landlord, who at one time owned 1,300 acres in the area. For a long time it was a very small school, with no more than 80 or 100 pupils, but rising participation rates, aided by the introduction of a free post-primary education scheme in 1967, helped to swell the numbers to more than three times that figure, about half of whom were boarders.

One of the hidden reasons for the rapid growth was that the county town, Castlebar, is only nine miles away. Balla, with a population of only 300, could hardly have supported a school of this size, but Castlebar parents, attracted no doubt in part by the superior social cachet of the religious order who ran the Balla school, found little difficulty in organizing the necessary transport or paying boarding fees.

The nuns' decision to close the school was announced in February, 1975. Coming hard on the heels of an announcement that a local boys' school was also about to close its doors, this news threw the local community into disarray. The department of education was relatively unconcerned: there were enough places for all the displaced pupils in other schools in the catchment area.

A local by-election campaign sharpened the public appetite for action, and a public meeting of parents set up a committee which raised £14,000 in a week as an indication of their serious intentions. Eventually, after several visits to the Minister for Education in Dublin, and a great deal of negotiation with the nuns, they agreed to buy the buildings and some land for £30,000.

A limited company is being set up to run the school, and a management board will also be established. Adult education, and the use of the building for community activities in general, are promised as a feature of its new incarnation.

The Catholic church is still deeply involved, as might be expected since these are no Protestant families living in the catchment area. The local Catholic bishop has offered one of his priests as the first head of the new school, which will be co-educational where the old school was for girls only, and the offer is obviously acceptable to the local community as a sign that clerical support, as well as approval, will be forthcoming.

The new owners and managers of the school have calculated that it will be viable with an intake of 50 to 80 pupils per year; 56 students have already enrolled for the first year in September 1978, half of them boys. The curriculum will not be too strong on the practical side: the Department of Education will not give grants for expensive metalwork and woodwork equipment, for example, because other schools near by already have such facilities, provided by the public purse. But the parents, who will no doubt be paying school fees or

at least voluntary contributions, may be expected to make up at least part of the difference. It will not be the normal capitation grant for pupils, and have its teachers' salaries paid by the Department of Education, provided its curriculum is satisfactory in the subjects it provides.

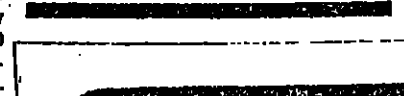
The area must now host one of the best school community ratios in the west of Ireland: the nuns who are selling out of Balla run another successful school in Kiltimagh, no more than six miles away, where there is also a vocational school, in Claremorris, nine miles away, there is another secondary school and another vocational school; and of course there is the county town of Castlebar itself.

In the Republic, community schools have been a controversial issue since the 1950s. Under the 1930 Act, their portion of education is optional, and in Irish as the 1955 Amendment in education survey pointed out, a very bad match of supply and demand.

All the legal precedents relate to universities, which at least have a proper statutory basis for their activities, and these are not likely to be helpful to either school board or parents involved in the present dispute. Very few educational issues have in fact ever reached the courts. One of the most spectacular was an action by a parent whose child was beaten in school, and who produced substantial medical evidence to prove it. The teacher concerned was found guilty, but only asked to pay a shilling's damages by a jury which obviously had strong opinions on spanking rods and spoiling children.

John Morgan

Irish diary



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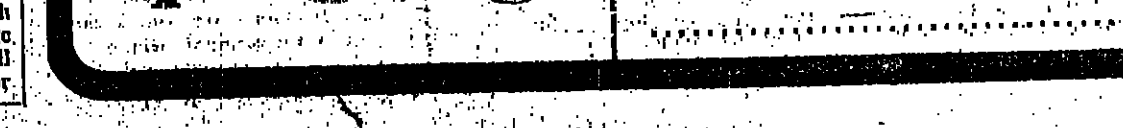
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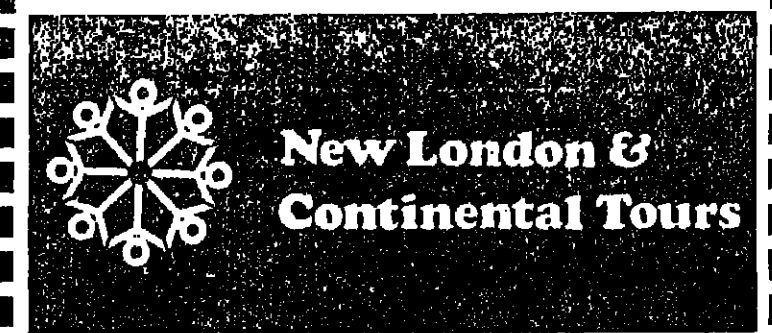
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Malta

Mintoff steps up Arab connexion

by Carl Slevin

The Maltese government has sold its former college of education to Libya for use as a centre of Islamic studies.

The buildings at Ta' Glorni, completed in 1964 at a cost of £500,000 (at that date, the £ sterling and the £ Malta exchanged at par), were used as a residential college until last October when teacher training was transferred to the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology on a non-residential basis.

They have now been sold for £M925,000 (about £1.2m sterling), but given high rates of inflation during the last 12 years, this is not an unquestionably profitable deal from a financial point of view.

Various conditions have been imposed by the government. The buildings must be used as a college or a school. The government's consent will be needed if the new owners wish to admit Arabs other than Libyans. Only Maltese citizens can be employed—with the exception of the director, teachers of Islamic subjects and the chef. If they ever wish to sell the college, the Libyans can do so only to a Maltese citizen who would then be obliged to use it for educational purposes.

Mr Don Mintoff, the prime minister, who faces a general election on September 17 and 18, has claimed that the sale will strengthen Malta's relations with Arab countries. He told the House of Representatives that he believed Malta had not been able to help Libya more. He pointed out that because the college was at present only used during the summer by foreign students it was deteriorating rapidly.

One of the main aims of the present Labour Government's foreign policy has been to foster links with the Arab world, especially with Libya. Apart from trade agreements, including the supply of relatively cheap oil by Libya, Mr Mintoff has encouraged cultural links. Arabic has been made a compulsory subject in secondary schools and more than 2,000 children started to learn the language last year.

Dr Joseph Cassar, Minister for Education and Culture, has predicted that this number will rise to 6,000 from October when the programme comes fully into operation. Libya has provided free textbooks and, from last May, some 20 teachers.

The opposition Nationalist party has condemned the sale mainly on the grounds that no government should sell part of its territory to another sovereign state except for use as an embassy. Dr George Bugeja, the Nationalist leader, said that the college could have been leased to the Libyans with or without payment of rent.

United States

Presidential campaigners both oppose bussing

from Michael Binyon

WASHINGTON An omnibus Education Bill that extends and revises authorizations for higher education, vocational education and the National Institute of Education (the government research body) has been passed by the Senate. A similar measure has been passed by the House of Representatives, and the differences between the two will now be sorted out before going to the President for signature.

The education lobby is glad to have got this important but voluminous piece of legislation out of the way before the current Congressional session ends and everything is overtaken by the election.

Lobbyists are now turning their attention to the Bill appropriating money to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare for 1977, which they expect President Ford will veto as being too expensive.

They are preparing a vigorous campaign to get enough Congressmen to vote to override the veto in case he does.

With the political battle lines for the Presidential election now finally drawn up, clear differences emerge between the Democrats and the Republicans in their attitude to education.

The Republicans, at their convention, emphasized their dislike of bussing, and President Ford's running mate, Robert Dole, has come out strongly against it. The Republicans also want to change the constitution, making school prayers permissible.

They oppose government intervention in higher education, saying that funds for "helping colleges" should never be used as devices for imposing added controls. On the Democratic side, Jimmy Carter has always opposed bussing, but he is emphasizing his opposition

less and less, and stresses the importance of integration. His running mate, Senator Walter Mondale, recently told the annual convention of the American Federation of Teachers that education would be a "number one priority" in a Carter-Mondale Administration.

Mr Mondale attacked President Ford's education budget cuts, and said with inflation it represented a cut of 18 per cent from this year's appropriation.

The AFT has already publicly endorsed Mr Carter. The National Education Association, the teachers' union, will announce its endorsement next week. It is also expected to back Mr Carter.

Union rejects move for compulsory transfers

A controversial scheme to "bus" teachers chosen by lot in Los Angeles has been dropped after vigorous protests by the 17,000-strong teachers' organization. The plan was part of an attempt to ensure a racial mix of teachers in all Los Angeles schools.

Teachers were asked to volunteer for transfer, and offered various inducements—tenure, money, the chance to return to their old schools after two years—but not enough came forward.

So the Board of Education proposed selecting 300 teachers by lot, who would be asked if they did not agree to be transferred. The teachers' union opposed this and this idea has now been dropped. The city is now negotiating for a new scheme for next year.

Spain



Museum makes £2.5m appeal to government

from William Chislett

MADRID Spain's Museum of Natural Sciences in Madrid, which celebrates its two hundredth anniversary this autumn, risks falling in to bad repair unless the Government agrees to grant it £2.5m.

The museum houses 250,000 pieces of zoological, geological and biological interest, 15,000 of which are available for public viewing. The

museum's director, Sr. Eugenio Ortiz de Vega, described the museum's condition as "precarious and lamentable". "When it rains, water falls on the exhibits in the library, showcases, in the halls and sometimes on to the heads of visitors."

Founded in the reign of King Carlos III, the museum opened on November 4, 1776, after five years putting a collection together. The museum was in the centre of Madrid until it was moved 90 years ago to the Paseo de la Castellana.

Among its most precious items is a 100-year-old Malay elephant, perfectly preserved, and a copy of the famous gigantic dinosaur presented to Alfonso XIII by the American millionaire philanthropist Carnegie.

Denmark

Pupil costs increase by 61pc

The average cost of educating a comprehensive school pupil rose by 61.1 per cent to 7,476 (kr 1968) in the three years up to and including 1974/75, according to Education Ministry figures.

The largest share, equivalent to £430, went towards teachers' salaries. Other costs included: upkeep, depreciation, running costs of school buildings (£148), maintenance of the remaining six ministries (£32), textbooks and materials (£30) in day-schools (£16).

The biggest increase in the period was for administration costs which rose by 89 per cent. Transport costs rose by 63 per cent and those of teachers' salaries by 62 per cent.

Last year's average nursery class had 17.1 pupils, while class size in the comprehensives increased from 19.6 to 20.5 pupils during the first three years up to and including 1974/75. The average primary school class had 22.4 pupils.

West Germany

Safer school transport urged by motor club

by David Dungworth

West Germany's equivalent of the AA, the Allgemeiner Deutscher Automobil-Club (ADAC), prides itself on being more than an organization which looks after the interests of private motorists.

One of its departments is concerned with the improvement of road safety, particularly among school children. Much work remains to be done in this field because every year about 70,000 children are killed or injured in road accidents, 40,000 of which occur while they are on their way to or from school.

For the past two years a four-man committee of experts in vehicle engineering, road safety education and traffic law have been investigating a specific aspect of the subject. Their findings have now been published in a 100-page booklet entitled *Der Schulbus* (The Schoolbus).

The policy of replacing small village schools by larger district schools pursued during the second half of the last decade has meant daily travel over considerable distances for many primary school children. Lack of public transport means that two million pupils now travel to school by school bus every day.

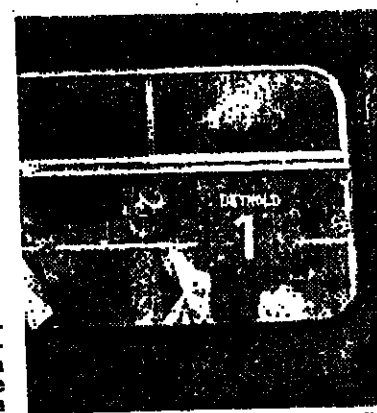
Each year, according to the Federal Ministry of Employment and Social Services, there are over 5,000 accidents involving school buses.

The team recommended the installation of safety belts and headrests, upholstered movable armrests next to the gateway, an inside and outside loudspeaker through

which the driver can speak to children both on and off the bus, warning blinkers linked with the door opening mechanism, a special space for books and satchels and a colour scheme which makes the bus easily visible to other road users.

These proposals have also been made in concrete form by incorporating them into two prototypes—a six-seater Humber-Benz and an eight-seater Volkswagen minibus—which have recently been exhibited to education authorities throughout the country.

Nevertheless, getting general acceptance of the ADAC's safety measures is likely to be a long and difficult process. Outside the big cities about 80 per cent of school buses are operated by private firms and they tend to use their older vehicles because of damage caused by school children.



Italy

Minority groups call for more language rights

from Dalbert Hallenstein

MILAN Italy's ethnic minorities are becoming increasingly militant in their fight to protect the linguistic rights of the 3m Italians whose first language is not Italian. This summer a series of seminars on the rights of the country's ethnic minorities was held in Milan by ethnic organizations.

The Italian Constitution guarantees special protective rights to linguistic minority groups, and their representatives in Milan discussed ways of achieving these rights. They agreed to push for the introduction of the various minority languages into the State school system.

At least one group, the German-speaking population of the province of Bolzano (Sud-Tirol), has already achieved almost complete school autonomy in the schools and local bureaucracy. In the province of South Tyrol is a special case: it is close to the Austrian border, and has a special historical relationship with Austria.

Similarly, the Slovenes of Trieste and Gorizia (on the border of Yugoslavia) and the Friulians of Udine and Pordenone, which borders

on France, have managed to obtain a considerable degree of linguistic and educational autonomy.

All these areas now have ethnic radio stations (Sud-Tirol has also developed a German language television network) and have achieved a large degree of language equality in education.

However, most of Italy's linguistic minority groups are economically depressed and isolated areas. Among these are the Albanian-speaking communities of Calabria (about 100,000 people), the 15,000 who speak Catalan in and around the Sardinian city of Alghero, the 20,000 Greek-speakers living in Puglia, the 5,000 Croat-speakers in Molise and the 100,000 speakers of Provençal who live in the valleys of Piedmont.

There are also the Ladino communities scattered throughout the Dolomites (about 10,000), plus 700,000 Friulians who also speak a type of Ladino. The Sardinians, too, have a dialect which is so distinct from Italian that they too are claiming the rights belonging to a linguistic minority group; about 1,500,000 Sardinians speak "Sard".

South Africa

Employers hope for better deal for Black workers

JOHANNESBURG As a direct reaction to the tide of violence, arson and bloodshed among Black people sweeping South Africa, industrial leaders have called on the government to provide more and better educational facilities for Blacks.

The demand has come in the course of a wide-ranging statement by the Transvaal Chamber of Industry, the most important body of industrialists in the country.

It appealed to the government, among other things, for increased expenditure on Black education. The statement pointed out that Blacks comprise almost half the economically active people in South Africa. Yet, on the Witwatersrand—the major industrial complex in the country—less than 7 per cent fell into the skilled category.

France

Teaching openings cut again for third year

The number of teaching posts being made available at the annual national recruitment examination (CAPES) is to be slashed in 1977 for the third successive year.

Only 4,000 jobs will be open to competition as opposed to 5,000 this year and 7,150 in 1974. Further cuts are also expected in 1978 to bring the total number of new jobs available annually to around 3,500.

In addition, a further 7,000 jobs are to be scrapped in various sections of secondary education. These include 1,500 jobs in training centres for teachers in lower forms in secondary colleges and 1,400 posts as trainee teachers (IFES) which provide pre-service to undergraduate students during their university training.

Norway

16+ numbers continue to rise steadily

from Mike Duckenfield

STOCKHOLM For every two 16-year-olds entering voluntary academic upper secondary education a decade ago, three did so last year. The Institute for Studies in Research and Higher Education report that 72.2 per cent of the age group enrolled in autumn against 24.5 per cent in 1967/68.

Enrolment in the gymnasiums, including the commercial branch, which offer pre-university training, have risen steadily every year since the early 1960s.

Although as many as 49.4 per cent of the age group enrolled in the Oslo area last year compared with only 22 per cent in Finnmark, the most northerly county, overall enrolment in the last populated counties has increased 76 per cent compared with 44 per cent in the most populated in the last 10 years.

For the third time running, the proportion of girls continuing academic studies outran that for boys; girls now accounting for 51.7 per cent of all first-year pupils.

However, there were considerable sex differences regarding courses. Girls made up three-quarters of all arts students and two-thirds of those taking social science but only two in five in the commercial branch and one in four in science courses.

Nevertheless, science, with 46.1 per cent of enrolments, was the most popular course while arts accounted for 38.2 per cent, commerce for 11.2 per cent, and social science for 4.5 per cent.

Gymnasium graduates made up 29.8 per cent of the country's population of 19-year-olds last year compared with 18.4 per cent 10 years ago. Under present reform plans, the gymnasiums and vocational school are to be integrated into common schools of further education.

Republic of Ireland

Unemployed leavers plan canvassed

A document urging the creation of a national cooperative service to help unemployed school-leavers has been published by Brother Vivian Casella, an arts guidance teacher who is also a career guidance teacher at the governing body of University College, Dublin, and by a business consultant, Mr Niall Brackan.

The authors envisage a network of local centres, each with a group of about 10 people who would identify or devise tasks which the school-leavers could do on a voluntary basis while waiting for employment.

They have already approached organizations such as Chambers of Commerce and Rotary Clubs in towns throughout the republic in an effort to interest them in the scheme.



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Sport

Gymnast's dream in a dingy Russian building

by Stanley Levens

Schools gymnasts Lisa Jackman and Christopher Smith have just returned from their month's free training trip to the Soviet Union delighted with their stay and envious of the amenities available to their hosts.

Lisa, of Blackfen School, Sidcup, Kent, and Christopher, of Springhead School, Northfleet, Kent, explained that the training centre at Vladimir, about 150 miles from Moscow, is, from the outside, just another old building. "Dingy", said Christopher. But inside it is a gymnast's dream, with all the possible equipment needed to train youngsters.

They were particularly struck by the pits, full of pieces of foam rubber, which enabled gymnasts to try routines without hurting themselves.

"You can't have pits in the rather posh sports centres in Britain", said Christopher. "You're lucky in most gyms if you get a pair of parallel bars."

Christopher, 15, trained with younger Soviet boys who, he said, were of higher standard, chiefly because they had the facilities. Lisa, who had her 15th birthday at Vladimir, makes the same point about amenities, equipment and training.

Their trip to the USSR was earned by winning the Daily Mirror national scholarship competition in June. They were the second pair of schools gymnasts to benefit from this form of sponsorship.

It was far from being a holiday. For a full month Lisa and Christopher trained five and a half days a week for five hours a day—but



Lisa and Christopher: delighted but envious.

this left time for social activities.

The day began at 8 a.m. and finished at 6.30, with a long lunch break in between. Social highlight of the trip was an outing to the British Embassy, in Moscow, to meet pop singer Cliff Richard at a reception.

British coaches Meg Warren and Tony Johnson accompanied the two young gymnasts and Johnson's comment on his return was: "The facilities are wonderful. There will

never be anything like them in this country."

Lisa and Christopher both hope to go back to the Soviet Union in 1981 as members of the British Olympic team. Christopher, however, feels that he may have to wait until the 1984 Games as in 1980 he may be too young, at the age of 19.

And by present day standards, Lisa, at the same age, will be considered something of a prodigy.

Spotlight again on sport for all

A strenuous effort will be made next week to publicize opportunities for taking part in sports and spotlight the need for more sports fields, pools and gymnasiums. It takes the form of a Sport For All Week promoted by national and local sports councils in the four home countries backed by the governing bodies of sport.

The whistle will be blown by Mr Denis Howell, Minister for Sport and Recreation, in Hyde Park, London, at 3.30 pm on Sunday. There will be similar "opening ceremonies" in other cities.

A number of sports and show business personalities are expected at Hyde Park, where they will take part in some "gimmicky" versions of football, cycle-cross, tug-of-war

and skiing. Footballers Pat Jennings, Alan Ball and Trevor Brookings are among those who are expected to be there. Cyclist Beryl Burton and boxer Richard Dunn are among those expected at Roundhay Park, Leeds.

This is the fanfare and overture for a wide range of activities in almost every sport—with the aim of involving as many members of the public as possible.

At Parliament Hill Fields, London, many activities such as tennis will be free and some special events have been arranged: the Amber Valley District Council, in Derbyshire, is offering free football coaching; the Suddliffe Sports Centre, Nottinghamshire, is staging a series of "Come and Try It" sessions.

Two projects likely to attract attention are "Thames Valley Harriers' attempt on the world 10 mile relay record and the British Horse Society's relay ride of about 500 horsemen and women in of course, Banbury Cross.

The aim of the week as summed up by the ubiquitous Jimmy Hill is: "We enjoy taking part in sport; it is necessary to the life of the nation; you can get some fun out of it, too; far more money should be made available to sport."

The general Sport for All campaign launched over four years ago was not a roaring success, although it deserved to be. It remains to be seen how next week the local groups will get their message across.

People

Mr Michael Storm, dean of Environmental Studies at Bournemouth College of Higher Education near Bournemouth, is to be the ILEA's new staff inspector in geography and environmental studies from November.

Mr Arthur Cummins, the ILEA's deputy divisional officer for Lambeth for the past two years, is to be the new divisional officer. Dr L. G. Scarth, consultant child psychiatrist at the Child Bureau Clinic, Birmingham, to be consultant to the West Birmingham health district.

Universities

Professor J. B. Lloyd, head of the biochemistry research unit at Keele University, is to be the established Chair of Biochemistry. Dr C. Mortimer, reader in chemistry at Keele University, is to be the new Chair of Inorganic Chemistry.

Schools

Mr Brian Scott, deputy head of the Redwood School, a special school for the physically handicapped, is to be the new head of the school. Mr Robert Temple, director of the community director of the ILEA's Centre for Urban Education, is to be the head of the school.

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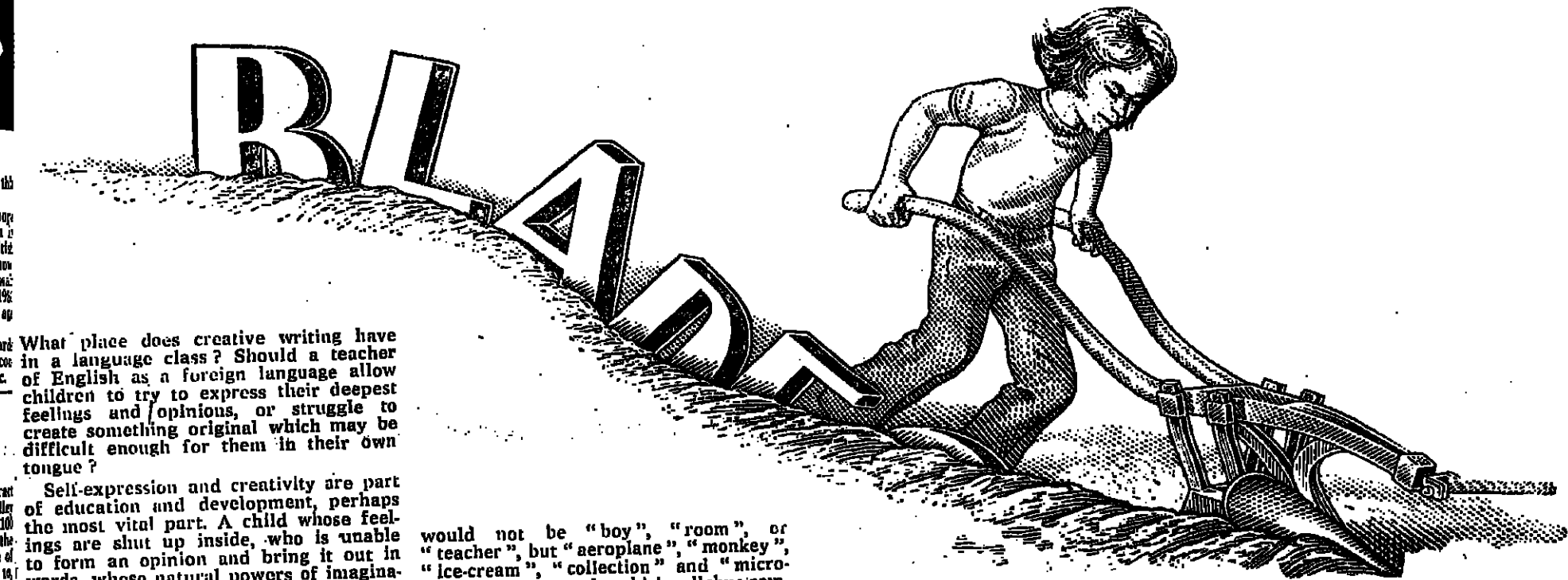
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Unmasking themselves

Lynne Reid Banks on the possibilities for creative work in language classes



What place does creative writing have in a language class? Should a teacher of English as a foreign language allow children to try to express their deepest feelings and opinions, or struggle to create something original which may be difficult enough for them in their own tongue?

Self-expression and creativity are part of education and development, perhaps the most vital part. A child whose feelings are shut up inside, who is unable to form an opinion and bring it out in words, whose natural powers of imagination have no encouraged outlet, can never hope to be as rich a person as one who has learnt from the earliest years to show all this in speech and writing. Nor will they be able to communicate successfully in any language.

English language lessons must form part of this developing process for children, both in England and abroad, who are learning it as a second tongue. After all, language is for self-expression, communication and self-development. Language lessons which are confined to the cold rules of grammar and spelling are not even functional. They are dead to the child, who is learning rules and constructions without seeing the point of them, and who is not allowed to use the tools to make anything.

Childhood creativity is like an underground river, seeking to burst but when ever it finds an opening. This force—as anyone knows who has worked with it—is one of the great elemental drives in education and in every child who has not been stopped up by suppression or lack of stimulation in early childhood. In my classroom experiments with Israeli children aged 11 to 18, to whom I taught English from scratch, I looked upon any child devoid of creative talent as a blind or crippled child.

Israeli teachers reading the English magazines, produced by my classes, full of stories, poems, dreams and marvels, used to exclaim: "But they never write things like this in Hebrew." Perhaps they were never asked to? Strangely enough, I came to the conclusion that they were sometimes less inhibited in English than in their own language. For some, English was like a mask from behind which they could pour out their true selves without the self-consciousness of exposure in their native language.

From the beginning I tried to show them this new language was a means of self-expression. Two weeks into their first term of English I would begin on the system of "organic words" I learnt from Sylvia Ashton-Waxer. They would choose their own words, and those words

would not be "boy", "room", or "teacher", but "aeroplane", "monkey", "ice-cream", "collection" and "microscope". These words, which syllabus compilers might denounce as useless or "too hard", were more useful to them at that stage than the names of humdrum objects (though they learnt those too), because they chose their word; it came from them; it was theirs; they learnt to say, write and read it easily; they loved it. They began to feel that English was exciting, organic. They had taken their first joyful step towards creativity.

Children only learn to write English by doing it themselves—not what you dictate to them, not what the book says, not only the endless technical exercises, but something of their very own, regularly, often, so that they get the knack. Followed by praise, to give them special satisfaction—appreciation and criticism on a grown-up level.

I have heard teachers complain that children hate creative writing. This has not been my experience. Of course they grumble. There is no harder, lonelier work than dredging up your own original stories and poems from your inner depths, despite the "underground river". Many times I have seen them growling and moaning that they cannot write a story or poem for homework, they have no ideas. But their faces, belied their words. Their hands were often snatching out their pencils before I left the room.

Once I remember asking for a poem on the subject of "Blades" (the name of the class [Israeli] classes all have names). I had never asked this class of 12-year-olds for a poem before. When I got to class the next day, only two pupils had produced something. I sent the rest out and told them to write something—any thing—and not come back until it was done. "We can't, we can't," they cried. "We can't write poems in Hebrew, never mind English." "Try," I said grimly. They trailed rebelliously away, and I taught a lesson to two, then five, then seven, and finally to all but two pupils. The least good poem I spread out of them in this was the following.

tossed on my desk with a gesture of defiance by a sulky-faced little girl who said she knew it was terrible, but if that was what I wanted...

Blades! Blades! There are none like us! We are sharp like a sword, Sweet like ice-cream, Candy like Tempo, Candy like Einstein!

Blades! Blades! There are none like us! It was good to be able to tell her truthfully that I loved it. It had her personality stamped all over it, but it was also typical of all of them. I knew very well she'd put in the ice-cream and the Tempo (a fizzy drink) to annoy me, but I told her that mundane things are often mentioned by modern poets, and since they were the stuff of her life it was quite right to bring them in. I criticized all the poems on the same, serious level. There was less fuss next time. They had found out that poetry—good poetry, true poetry—was in them and had got a unique pleasure from bringing it out.

There is a great difference between finding creativity hard but eventually satisfying, and hating it. Very few of them really hate it, and most of these are children who tend to hate all forms of hard work. Many who say they hate it at first learn to enjoy it by being made to do it, until they achieve fluency—fluency in translating their thoughts into words, and fluency in the new language at the same time.

We can learn an enormous amount from a careful and sympathetic reading of their work. Children can often find great relief in projecting their fears, sorrows, preoccupations and hopes into story-form, and setting them into perspective. We can get a genuine insight into their stage of development; their dreams and problems, and we can help them, perhaps in direct and practical ways, in proportion to what we learn of them in this way.

Here is a piece by a 13-year-old kibbutz boy. I don't pretend that this description is not something out of the ordinary—he was a very special child and is now an exceptional pupil of all abilities, as their English teacher did no more than I did in this case: demand creative work; try to help by suggesting evocative or stimulating subjects, and respond with serious appreciation. A teacher once said to me: "But you're creative yourself, I'm not." I answered that the teacher's creativity is quite irrelevant. She has only to believe in that of the children, and she will find it, as I found it here.

Memories

Yesterday night I went from my parents' room home to my room. It was about eleven o'clock. There was a full moon, and the lights on the electric poles were not needed. It was quiet outside; you could hear the low voices from the meeting of the members of the kibbutz.

As I walked I smelt the smell of the straw that had just been harvested, and I suddenly remembered when I was a young boy of about six, I was remembered when the old comba was still new, and how we went to see it working, and how we built houses of straw. I remembered how once on a summer day I sat in the window. A tractor was heard working in the field and in the blue sky flew an aeroplane, making a white line. Those were happy days that will never return. I saw that we're growing up and losing our imagination and living in a real world, a world of numbers. Now I understand the little ones who often say: "These grown-ups don't understand anything. Well, but we have to try. And this is one way."

Lynne Reid Banks taught for eight years in Israel.

Science

Commissioned by
Chelsea College Centre for
Science Education

Safety first

by John May

A great deal has been written recently on safety in school science courses. Science teachers are now resigned to finding new hazards in familiar substances or practices and they may be forgiven for thinking the only safe course is to stop teaching science as an experimental subject.

But the safety record in school science laboratories should be seen in perspective. A DES survey found that only 3 per cent of reported accidents in schools were in laboratories. The playground, the gymnasium and the lavatories were more dangerous places. But while a child who spills acid on himself is newsworthy, a child who falls in the playground and breaks an arm is not.

Both accidents can have serious consequences. Everyday living is dangerous and total safety is impossible. What we must do is decide what we are prepared to tolerate, take the necessary precautions and get on with the job.

Two trends in experimental science may cause problems for teachers: the development of integrated science courses and the fact that separate groups of pupils are doing different activities. Integrated courses mean teachers deal with aspects of the curriculum for which they have little or no training, but the writers are aware of this and have included background information and suggested potential hazards.

Courses like the Nuffield, once have been extensively tested. The use of laboratories by groups of pupils working at different things calls for meticulous organization in which safety is an essential component.

The first rule for science teachers should be: know the material thoroughly. This involves testing each unfamiliar experiment before hand, discovering possible hazards, and considering how to minimize them. Tests may show certain experiments are more suitable as demonstrations, or should even be eliminated.

Some hazards can be reduced quite easily, although they can seldom be removed altogether. It should become standard practice for example for pupils to wear goggles whenever their eyes are at risk. For most activities simple eye shields made by Griffin and George are effective. They are also cheap and enough should be bought for every pupil. The student who is just looking on is equally at risk as the pupil performing the experiment. More expensive but longer-lasting

goggles can also be used by pupils wearing prescription spectacles. These are made by both Philip Harris and Griffin and George. For demonstrations a safety screen between the teacher and the apparatus may be a wise precaution against splashes and accidents. Screens are made of wired glass in steel frames and are undoubtedly safe but because they are also very heavy they tend not to be used. A sheet of transparent Perspex held on two slotted bases can usually be substituted. Two Nuffield pattern safety screens that are effective, easy to use and store are produced by Griffin and George and Philip Harris. Perhaps an enterprising laboratory furniture manufacturer will produce a demonstration bench with a safety screen that will slide into place when needed.

Sometimes pupils suck liquids into their mouths when they are pipetting. This can be avoided by using pipette fillers—large test pipettes with three valves to control the movement of the liquid. It takes practice to use them. At a cost of more than £2 each they are expensive for a whole class but with careful organization a smaller quantity will do.

There is considerable concern about asbestos, which is now under suspicion in all forms. It seems even small amounts of asbestos dust can be dangerous, so any activity which may generate it should be avoided. Hard asbestos mats for protecting bench surfaces and asbestos centred gauzes may pose a hazard.

Rocksil is an alternative to asbestos wool but there is no really satisfactory substitute for the cement asbestos mats. Squares of plywood help to protect the bench but they are not heat resistant and they may burn if heated too much. There are, however, wire gauzes without asbestos centres. One material for which there seems to be no substitute is asbestos paper, which has many uses in science courses, such as providing a clean surface on which materials can be heated. Crucibles are an expensive alternative and if cleaning is likely to be a problem disposable tin lids can be used.

A second rule for teachers might be to know your limitations. New materials and new ideas constantly find their way into science courses and can cause difficulties. Few science teachers, for example, have had any formal training in the handling of radioactive materials, yet now isotopes are available on the school market. Teachers should follow an appropriate code of practice.

Following the Health and Safety at Work Act, 1974, which came into force on April 1 this year, a series of official codes of practice will be approved by the Health and Safety Commission. Meanwhile, the science teacher has three major sources of information, DES publications, i.e. regulations and information from the Association for Science Education.

An extremely valuable publication is the DES's *Safety in Science* booklet, which has recently been completely revised. This booklet is a comprehensive and well indexed code of practice for teachers. It contains a useful checklist—'How Safe is Your Laboratory?'—and a summary of the relevant points from the Health and Safety at Work Act as they affect schools. The book is strongly recommended.

The DES also issues several administrative memoranda on par-

ticular hazards. The following should interest science teachers: "The use of Lasers in Schools"; "Avoidance of Carcinogenic Aromatic Amines in Schools and Other Educational Establishments"; "The use of Ionising Radiation in Educational Establishments".

Local education authorities may have their own regulations on categories of materials. The local science adviser should be contacted if teachers have any doubts about the safety of a particular apparatus or practice.

The Association for Science Education is the professional organization for teachers. Apart from the *School Science Review* and *Education in Science*, which are sent automatically to members, the ASE publishes books and pamphlets covering a wide range of subjects including safety. Among these, *Safety in the School Laboratory* is a useful digest of safety procedures and practices which should be practised in every science department.

The ASE has recently produced a set of excellent labels for chemical reagent bottles which are clearly designed, self adhesive and varied. They give printed warnings of risks and details of emergency action in case of accident. So far 99 titles are available at £1.75 a set, or 25p for 10 labels of one type.

An ASE sub-committee is looking at the implications of the Health and Safety at Work Act for science teaching. It has published an interim statement and further recommendations appear in the ASE bulletin, *Education in Science*. Important statements on safety have appeared in the October 1975, and April and June 1976 editions and from members.

Other useful publications include *The Recommended Practice for Schools Relating to the Use of Living Organisms and Materials of Living Origin*, by John Wray, English Unit from the Schools Council Educational Use of Living Organisms project. Despite its forbidding title it is a very readable book, primarily for schools on the use of living materials. It has an extensive bibliography and list of references.

A *Safety Handbook for Science Teachers*, by Everett and Jenkins packs a great deal of information into 100 pages. It is clearly and concisely written and well laid out and covers safety in laboratories and workshops, biological hazards, fire, first aid, and the teacher and

the law. This last chapter was written before the Health and Safety at Work Act, but no doubt a revised edition will take the Act into account.

A novel feature is an appendix listing all the major hazards and incidents reported in the *School Science Review* from 1919 to mid-1972. These are listed under compound, substance or subject, and the list makes interesting reading; it shows the hazards involved in some substances and potential mistakes. Carbon disulphide, for example, has 10 entries on its flammable, poisonous and explosive nature. The list is also a reminder of hazards associated with some practices, such as the preparation of oxygen from oxygen mixture.

Pupils must also understand the potential consequences of careless behaviour. A film produced for the DES, *In the Movies it Doesn't Hurt*, stars Bernard Bresslaw as commentator pointing out the need to think safe working safely, and then in three scenes as the pupil every teacher dreads. The film deals with specific points such as the use of screens, and provides opportunities for discussion. John Merrigan as the science teacher copes admirably with his difficult pupil and comes through relatively unscathed. This film could be used with pupils doing laboratory science for the first time, and with older pupils to reinforce ideas on safety. The film comes with a pamphlet which suggests discussion points.

Safety in the Science Laboratory from Diana Wyllie Ltd, a filmstrip with cassette and lecture notes, shows various hazards. A number of the 38 frames ask you to spot a hazard and could stimulate discussion. The filmstrip can be used with a recorder commentary or the teacher can just use detailed notes. It is probably best employed to illustrate points as they arise. The cassette, like much material on the subject, is a long and rather tedious type of dos and don'ts. It is described as being useful for teachers, student teachers and technicians, or as an alternative to teachers' commentary. It is likely to be of much more use to the former.

Little is written specifically for pupils. But *Safety in the Lab* by a group of science teachers in the Oxfordshire and district section of the ASE fills the gap. The leaflet sets out codes of behaviour and greatest danger in the lab is probably the pupil himself. Leaflets cost £2.50 a 100 from the ASE. They

should be given to every pupil and constantly referred to. Several firms supply posters, mostly directed at the teacher. Griffin and George has a set of five designed for posters which are large (410 x 590), colourful, and effective. If posters are changed from time to time, they should have a great impact on safety procedures. Encourage pupils to think about safety.

There is no such place as a completely safe laboratory. Just as there is no such place as a completely safe home. This is not a counsel of despair nor a statement of complacency. What we do to do—and what the majority of science teachers have always done—is to reduce hazards to an acceptable minimum, to be conscious of those that remain and to get on with the job of teaching.

Safety in Science Laboratories, 16 safety series No 2 available in HMSO, 85p.

Administrative memoranda: 24—'Avoidance of Asbestos Dust'; 3/76—'Avoidance of Carcinogenic Aromatic Amines in Schools and Other Educational Establishments'; 7/76—'The Use of Lasers in Schools'; 2/76—'The Use of Ionising Radiation in Educational Establishments'. (This replaces A/1/65.) All available from the Education for Science, Education Centre, 35p, available from 01-261 7711.

Safety in the Lab, £2.50 for 100, *Safety in the Lab*, £2.50 for 100, *Safety in the Lab*, £2.50 for 100.

Chemical labels—99 for £17.10 of any one type for 25p, 5p, 10p. All available from the Education for Science, Education Centre, 35p, available from 01-261 7711.

Recommended practice for the relating to the use of living organisms and material of living origin, by John Wray, English Unit from the Central Film Library, Government Buildings, Broad Avenue, Acton, London W3 7B (free loan).

Safety in the Science Laboratory by Alma Armstrong and Eric De Witt. Filmstrip, slide set DW48 from Diana Wyllie Ltd, 3 Pat Royal, Baker Street, London W1 0GX. Filmstrip and notes, £3.50; cassette £3.50, half frame £3.50.

Griffin & George Ltd, 285 Baling Road, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 7UH. Safety posters, S17/74, £1.64 a set of five; eye shields, S19/22, £2.99 a pack of 12; goggles, S19/22, £2.99 each; Perspex screen, S37/36, £2.99 each; slotted bases, S37/36, £2.99 each; four; pipette filler, S4/90, £2.99 each; Rocksil mineral wool, 252/088/010, £1.21 for 500; wire gauzes (plain), S28/500/010, £1.36 a pack of 10 (125mm sides), S28/500/015, £1.87 a pack of 10 (150mm sides).

The company has produced a pamphlet *Griffin Safety* giving useful advice. Philip Harris Ltd, Cornwall House, Lionel Street, Birmingham B3 1AY. Eye shields (goggles), C1627, £1.00 each; slotted bases, C1625, £1.00 each; mineral wool (Rocksil), S265/70p for 500g; wire gauzes, C1384/15, £2.05 a pack/10 (125mm sides), C1384/15, £2.05 a pack/10 (150mm sides).

A new exhibition looks to the future

by Frances Furrer

The first Education and Communication Technology Exhibition (EdTech 76), held from August 24 to 26, was a reasonable success. Some 80 stands were split between audio-visual, software, hardware and science teaching equipment—an unusually varied mix. They attracted about 1,000 visitors, some from abroad including one or two Texans and Arabs. The organizer, John Northover, believes the exhibition meets a need because it has a wider appeal than, say, Inter Navex.

"The only educational exhibition of any consequence in 1977 will be EdTech", he says.

This year's had a very pleasant atmosphere. The location, Holland Park School, was attractive and informal, the scale was not overwhelming, the catering was excellent and it was possible to sit down from time to time. Comfort should not be ignored by exhibition organizers since it contributes so much to the visitor's impression.

The exhibitors had mixed feelings about it all. Some were very

disappointed by the number and type of visitors, most of whom had no authority to buy. Hardware firms grumbled that there was too much software, and vice versa. Some thought the stand space was unevenly given the simple facilities and number of visitors. Several came up with the exhibition cliché that although they were not doing well at the show, they had to be there because their competitors were.

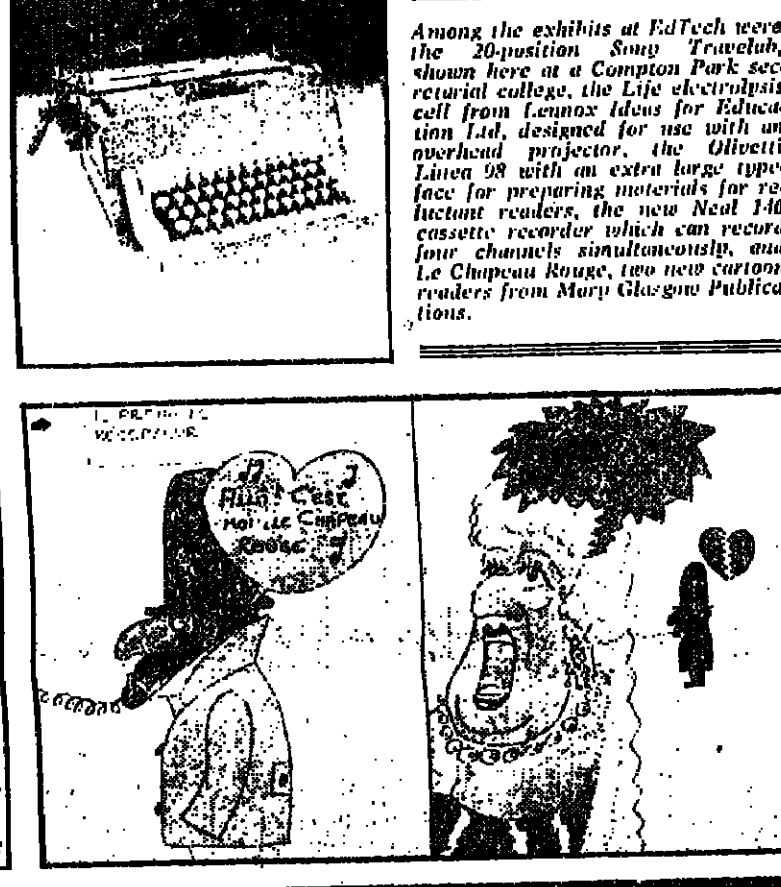
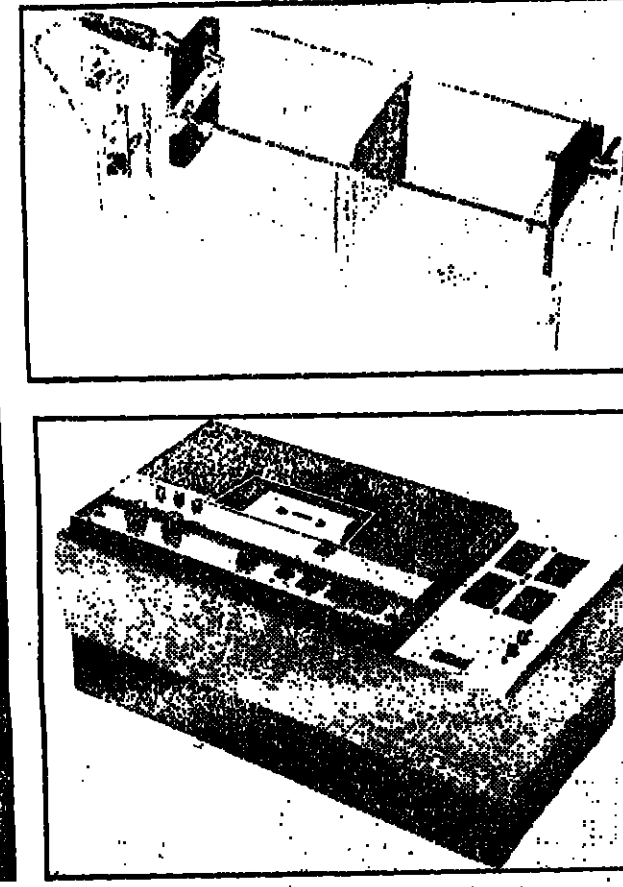
But many exhibitors were well pleased with EdTech; they had made useful contacts and were

expecting orders. Even detractors considered it had been well organized and a fairly large proportion of the total number of exhibitors intended to support it next year.

After disappointment over Inter Navex, many manufacturers had pinned their hopes on EdTech. Inter Navex all but disappeared into the Cason exhibition, and many educational firms withdrew shortly before it opened. EdTech, although smaller, was intended to attract the teaching profession en masse—which it did not do.

John Northover says the majority of visitors were department heads, advisers, and media resource officers, but teachers will follow their lead and come next year. But exhibitors thought that the absence of teachers was because of the time of year, and this will be unchanged for 1977.

Mr Northover is taking bookings for stand space at Holland Park School next year and is full of confidence about the future of EdTech. "We've broken the ice now and we can only progress," he says.



Among the exhibits at EdTech were the 20-position Sony Traslub, shown here at a Compton Park secondary college, the Life educational cell from Lennox Ideas for Education Ltd, designed for use with an overhead projector, the Olivetti Linea 98 with an extra large typeface for prepping materials for reluctant readers, the new Neol 140 cassette recorder which can record four channels simultaneously, and Le Chapeau Rouge, two new cartoon readers from Mary Glasgow Publications.

Computers for convenience?

by Paul McGee

Information Retrieval in Schools Computer Education in Schools ICL-CES, Computer House, Euston Centre, London NW1 3BD. Pupils text £1.50; teacher's guide £6.

"The divorce from mathematics is now complete" is how Bryan Thwaites introduces *Information Retrieval in Schools*. Many teachers, worried by the mathematical bias in computer studies, will now have a means of introducing children of all abilities to the idea that the storage and selective retrieval of information is an important application of computers.

Teachers and pupils who simply wish to use the computer in this way for subjects like history or geography will be able to do so with

the help of this book. There is the exciting prospect that we will soon all treat computers in the same way that we use familiar products of technology like cars and televisions for convenience and without knowing how they work.

The book deals with an ICL package called FIND and uses four existing ICL-CES files. FIND will only work on ICL 1900, 2903 or 2904 computers. ICL-CES will inform teachers of their nearest machine and provide the computer centre with copies of the files so pupils can start using the system immediately.

Information Retrieval in Schools introduces the Ashfield file which contains details of ages and sporting abilities of pupils in Ashfield House at Oakridge School. After

searching for information manually the reader is taught to use the FIND system for simple inquiries, followed by a skimpy look behind the scenes to see what the computer is doing. This would be better as an appendix since it introduces some unnecessary and unexplained technical jargon.

More complicated queries using conjunction and alternation are dealt with using the Oakridge file, which contains details of names, sex, age, form, subjects studied and clubs attended. The Badlads file, with information on criminals, their crimes, cars and associates, is used to provide lists of suspects for amusing little crimes. By this point there is a useful appendix that offers guidance when the computer produces unintelligible messages in error.

By now the scope and power of the system should be clear. The book goes on to deal with techniques that make the system more efficient and the user's job easier. One interesting feature reads whether some conditions are met, for example, any two out of three. Another allows the user to look at part of a piece of information such as finding books with "football" in the title.

The remainder of the book is more technical and interesting to those who want to make up their own files. The Places of Interest file shows how a complicated file is designed and illustrates a simple but effective coding technique. There is a useful appendix that offers guidance when the computer produces unintelligible messages in error.

This is a pleasant, well thought out and well written book with sufficient examples to build the reader's confidence. It has a racy style that excites interest. The teacher's guide contains answers to the questions, details of other FIND facilities, masters for overhead projector transparencies and ideas for the file. One possible reservation is that it uses coding sheets for the queries and these are then punched onto cards or tape. This can be expensive and the teacher's guide suggests possible cheaper, more sensible or punched card systems.

FIND can also be used on-line, which is a much better use of all those expensive teletypes now used as inefficient data preparation machines.

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EXTRA CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Comic cuts

Myra Barrs on picture books for older children

"Alice was beginning to get very tired of sitting by her sister on the bank, and of having nothing to do: once or twice she had peeped into the book her sister was reading, but it had no pictures or conversations in it, 'and what is the use of a book', thought Alice, 'without pictures or conversations?'"



Fred's game from "Here are the Brick Street Boys", by Allan and Janet Ahlberg, now in paperback. (Picture Lions 50p.)

scapes for the events of the story. How far they were essential for a beginning reader is impossible to say, and the examples of auto-didacts who began their own reading career with the close-packed print of the Bible or Bunyan should make us wary of generalization. I think it is presumably likely that these were texts which these readers had experienced in some other way, in church, or by being read to, before coming to the print itself.

Adult readers are not restricted in their choice of reading matter to the contents of libraries, and it appears that, in what they want to read, pictures and text do have an important role to play in relation to each other. Children, generally, are assessed by their unrelieved progress into the blackness of print, and very often this is the home attitude too—"baby" books are bad, "real" books are print-packed. And comics are ambiguous objects, sometimes allowed by adults, sometimes not—rude, funny, dirty, private to children and, by them, almost universally enjoyed.

continued on page 36



Animal Families

These animals are all ancestors of the remarkable group called the Perissodactyls, which include the horse, the tapir and the rhinoceros. The story of how this group of creatures live and breed is described in the latest title in the Bodley Head New Biologies series for junior school children.

- Other titles in the series, all fully illustrated: Birds of Prey that Hunt by Day by Clive Catchpole £1.75. Owls by Clive Catchpole £1.75. Bees and Wasps by J. L. Cloudsley-Thompson £1.25. Crocodiles and Alligators by J. L. Cloudsley-Thompson £1.75. Spiders and Scorpions by J. L. Cloudsley-Thompson £1.55. Tortoises and Turtles by J. L. Cloudsley-Thompson £1.85. Chimpanzees by Prue Napier £1.25. Frogs, Toads and Newts by F. D. Ommannney £1.25. Winner of the 1973 T.E.S. Information Book Award. Fishes by Gwynne Vevers £1.55.

Bodley Head New Biologies

WALSALL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH Education Committee. Hilary Street Infant School, Hilary Street, Walsall, WS2 9DP. (Group 5: 307 on roll). Re-advertisement—Required for January, 1977. Head Teacher (Salary £5,406-£6,120 plus S.P.S. Allowance).

This school is housed in traditional buildings in which a substantial area of open plan teaching accommodation has been created by extensive internal adaptations. It serves an area with a sizeable immigrant population and places great emphasis on language development and involvement with the local community. The school has a 20-place nursery class and shares a language unit with the adjacent junior school.

Ealing EDUCATION SERVICE

Required for January 1977: LITTLE EALING FIRST SCHOOL, Little Ealing Lane, Ealing W5 4EA. Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced candidates for the post of HEAD of this 5-8 First School. Salary Scale: Headteachers Group 5 plus London Allowance of £402.

Derbyshire headships

Applications are invited from suitably qualified primary teachers for the headships of the following schools: Stonebroom Primary School, Shireland and Higham 277 Children GROUP 5. Wirksworth Infant School 123 Children GROUP 3. Closing date for the above schools 24th September, 1976.

Metropolitan Borough of Rochdale EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

RE-ADVERTISEMENT Required for January, 1977. Head Teacher Group 4 ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL (AIDED). Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the Headship of the above school. St Michael's serves a residential area to the north of Manchester and has 185 pupils on roll between the ages of 4 and 11.

HARTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL. Haringey. Applications invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Head of the Haringey School. The school is a primary school with 115 pupils on roll between the ages of 4 and 11.

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Hertfordshire County Council EAST HERTS DIVISION

Required for January, 1977. DEPUTY HEADS For the following schools: (1) Andrew's Lane J.M. Cheshunt (Group 4). (2) Chalk Dell Infants, Hertford (Group 4). (3) Goffs Oak J.M. Cheshunt (Group 5). (4) High Wycombe J.M. Cheshunt (Group 4). (5) St. Cross RC J.M. Hoddeston (Group 4). (6) Sheredes J.M. Hoddeston (Group 6). (7) Roger de Clare First School (5-9 years) Puckeridge (Group 5).

Please write to the Divisional Education Officer, School House, Hagadell Road, Hertford, SG13 9BQ for posts. Posts 1-6 are re-advertisements, previous applications will be reconsidered. Post 7, advertised for the first time. Financial assistance with household removal expenses is available in approved cases.

KIRKLEES EDUCATION COMMITTEE. Applications invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Head of the Kirklees School. The school is a primary school with 115 pupils on roll between the ages of 4 and 11.

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LIVERPOOL CHILDHOOD AND INFANT JUNCTIVE

Applications invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Head of the Liverpool School. The school is a primary school with 115 pupils on roll between the ages of 4 and 11.

ST. HELENS EDUCATION COMMITTEE. Applications invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Head of the St. Helens School. The school is a primary school with 115 pupils on roll between the ages of 4 and 11.

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WILTSHIRE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Applications invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Head of the Wiltshire School. The school is a primary school with 115 pupils on roll between the ages of 4 and 11.

Wielding a magic brush

Stuart Hannabuss on Japanese illustrators of children's books



One of the autumn illustrations from "A Child's Book of Seasons" by Satomi Ichikawa



An example of Chiyoko Nakatani's work from "My Day on the Farm" (Bodley Head, £1.50)

I think it would be pretty safe to say that most people haven't read *The Tale of Squirrel Nutkin* in Japanese. Yet Beatrice Potter is one Western writer who sells well in Japan, along with Hans Christian Andersen, A. A. Milne and Selma Lagerlöf. The traffic goes both ways, of course, for several British publishers have taken a great interest in Japanese children's books—especially picture books. We see the results of their interest ever more clearly in bookshops and children's libraries.

The Japanese have had a long and rich tradition in designing pictures, and famous names from the past, like Hokusai and Utamaro, are known to many who are not collectors. In recent years there has been a flowering of art in Japanese picture books, and, fortunately for us in the West, it has overspilled into our market-place. Illustrators like Momoko Ishii and Chiyoko Nakatani are building up reputations around the world.

One of the things which drew Alan Garner to Japanese stories was the fierce energy of their mythology. This led him to include the savage tale of Hachiko, the earless in his *Book of Goblins*, some years back. The powerful emotions generated in Japanese myth come through in picture books wrought by Japanese writers and illustrators.

In 1975, for instance, Blackie published *The Ogre's Boots* by Keisuke Nishimoto (£2.50), illustrated by Kenji Shimizu, a kind of Oriental "Mr. Milne" about an ogre from whose three brothers try to escape. They are dwarfed in an impressionistic way of brooding tones and a glaringly red giant ogre tramples through the pages, nails and teeth flashing dangerously. The impact is tremendous and immediate, out of the corner of our mouths at the ingenuity of the third brother.

Another in the same series, *The Heavenly Weaver* by Sachio Mitani (£2.50), takes the story of the Sky-King's daughter Cowherd. She is the one who weaves the tapestry of the seasons, and in her dallying with her lover forgets, and drought and famine

come to the earth. The photographic montage artwork of Kenji Shimizu starkly shows how the Sky-King separates the lovers with the Milky Way, allowing them to meet afterwards only on Midsommer Eve.

The dramatic quality of these stories stands out, too, in a series called "Fantasia Pictorials" from Warner. These pictorialize in a variety of distinctive ways certain pieces of classical music—Alban Berg's *Night on a Bare Mountain* (£2.25) has skeletal and ghastly figures by Taro Saito; Scheffer's round a crazy hill until banished by the church bell at dawn, while Kyushu Yamaguchi brings the multitudinous magical broomsticks to version of Duka's "Sorcerer's Apprentice". Like Disney's *Fantasia*, this is a series that selects classical music which creates tone-poems and tone-pictures in the air for children.

Japanese stories want to involve children in this mythological rough-scrub. Wolfgang Graess, whose *Mai-Tzu and the Kite Emperor* (Blackie £2.50) is wholly modelled on Oriental designs, tells of Mai-Tzu who had the gall to fly a sleeky old kite in the sky without painting it first. He has it then taken in the Kite Emperor, who arrives in his skyship, and he has to choose the finest kite he can see from the many up in the sky, and upon his choice depends his future. Graess, despite his circumlocutory diction, paints some pictures of remarkable beauty which yet take on a sinister harshness as we realize how near death little Mai-Tzu comes.

In fact, magic in Japanese books is impregnated with the fearful. This *Magic Brush* (Blackie £2.50) illustrated by Tsutomu Marumori, where little Ma Linzi finds a magic paintbrush the pictures from which come to life. He starts off well, painting oxen for the impoverished peasants, until the greedy governor hears about it and demands a mountain of gold. Ma Linzi obliges, but puts the ship with a storm. Marumori's vivid artwork singles the grotesque governor and his minions as that children have to look upwards at them—he is the one with a magic brush!

Apart from mythology, Japanese illustration is active on other fronts.

One of its major trends is towards the "chibi" style, in which figures are drawn in a very simple, almost cartoonish way. This is seen in the work of Kenji Shimizu and others. Another trend is towards a more detailed, almost photographic style, as seen in the work of Taro Saito and others.

Junshi Inoue's pictures in *My Day on the Farm* (Bodley Head, £1.50) show this clearly, with a simple, almost cartoonish style. This is seen in the work of Kenji Shimizu and others.

One danger of Japanese books lies in the area of style. After all, Japanese technique is known throughout the world, and it is in miniature, as it comes to children's books, leads to the creation of "dinky" and the "twice" style. This is the work of Kenji Shimizu and others.

Satomi Ichikawa is a Japanese artist working in Paris, and her *Child's Book of Seasons* (Blackie £2.50) is really a masterpiece. It is a book of twelve illustrations, each showing a different season. The style is simple and elegant, and the illustrations are of a high quality.

A sense of size and space

Valerie Alderson talks to David Macaulay about his non-fiction books for children

"a gift for putting over the complexities of construction engineering which should be the envy of most of our writers of children's non-fiction"

It is difficult to believe that David Macaulay's *Cathedral* (Collins, 1974) was his first book, for it conveys all the professional and authority of an established writer. Indeed, the uninitiated reader might be forgiven for thinking the author-illustrator to be an established scholar who has turned to children's books to satisfy a need to find a wider audience for his enthusiasm.

In fact, *Cathedral* was written because its author wanted to become an illustrator and could not find a suitable text. That the book was an immediate success seems to have come as a complete surprise to its author and publisher although not to its readers.

David Macaulay is the first to deny any pretensions to being a writer, but he certainly has a gift for putting across the complexities of construction engineering which should be the envy of most of our writers of children's non-fiction. No doubt his training as an architect has contributed much, giving him a thorough understanding of the principles behind the work he describes, but in addition, he exploits his gifts as an illustrator to underline and expand his text.

uncanny heights and depths

It is in his stark, block and white illustrations that his books' great strength lies. Mr Macaulay is much pre-occupied with the use of perspective to give impressions of size and space and in *Cathedral* he demonstrates this par excellence. Superficially, many of his drawings may seem strangely contorted,

the lines twisted out of their conventional angles, but as one looks closer, one discovers the uncanny heights and depths of his buildings. The great west front of his cathedral leans up and back as though one were indeed standing in the precinct before it; or one can look directly down into the nave from the partially completed vaulting, reentering on a beam turned and tilted at an angle to the floor, to find the comfort of chair or table to restore one to solid ground.

Despite three more books and another on the way, *Cathedral* is still David Macaulay's favourite. The one he feels closest to putting over his ideas.

In both *City* (1975) and *Pyramid* (to be published this autumn), he has tried to repeat the pattern begun in *Cathedral*. *Pyramid* comes closest, for again it relates the undertaking of a massive building project, with the minimum of mechanical equipment, depending primarily on unlimited manpower and a great deal of ingenuity. It is fascinating, for example, to discover at least one theory of how the Egyptians built without those essential aids of modern building, scaffolding and cranes.

aqueducts, cisterns, sewers

City is somewhat different, for here the emphasis falls much more on the people who inhabit the buildings. Mr Macaulay has taken for his theme a hypothetical Roman city designed for a maximum of 50,000 inhabitants. He has followed through its building, from the construction of the outer walls, the aqueducts, cisterns and sewers, to the final completion of the buildings 125 years later when the population has reached its projected maximum.

In this book, the strength lies not only in his drawings of buildings, but in the way the author has brought the inhabitants to life. For most children, a Roman city is no more than a jumble of names, but Mr Macaulay has taken the stones and rebuilt them into shops, tenements, houses, public baths, and filled them with the everyday bustle of a living town.

Suddenly, a Roman apartment begins to look very like its sparsely furnished modern counterpart; the

living places and their customers are not so very different from a modern snark bar.

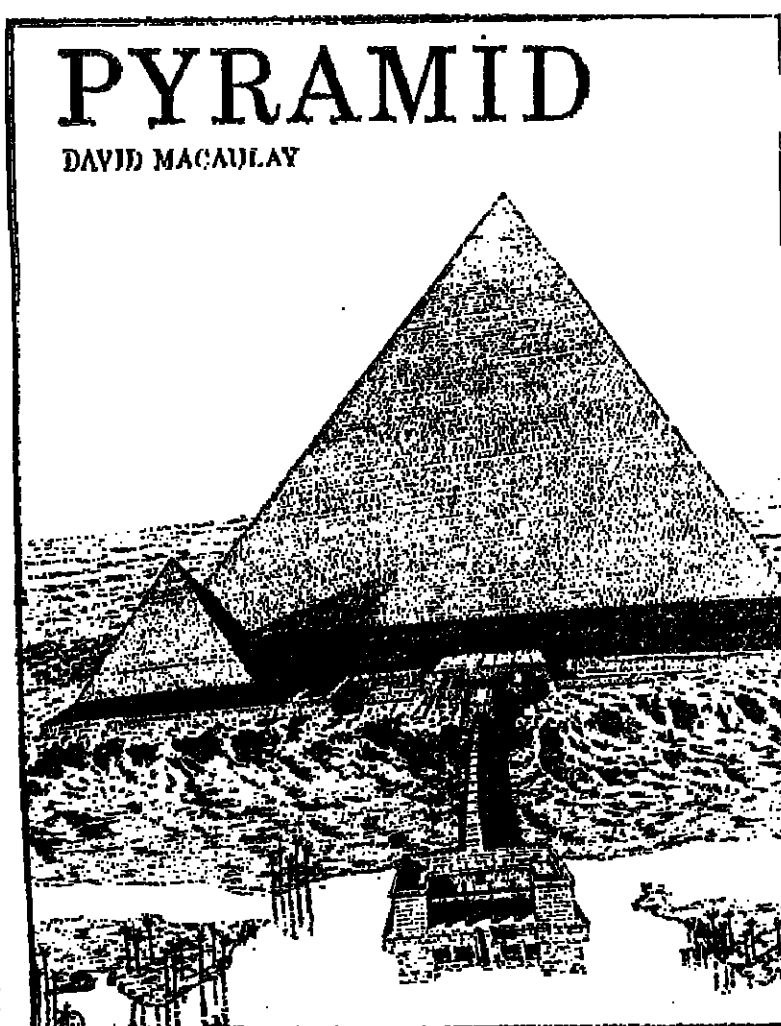
One of David Macaulay's motives in his writing (and speaking) is the desire to make people, and especially children, look at the buildings around them; to activate in his audience a curiosity about how things are made and how they function. This finds specific expression in his book *Underground* which will be published in the States this autumn and, probably, in this country next year.

Here he has taken a new line, for he describes the book as a kind of guide to what happens beneath a modern city: the sewers, electric cables, water mains, subways and so on which are an unseen but essential part of that city's existence. Perhaps here there is more of the teacher coming out, for he admits to a sincere love of teaching, though as a two-way process rather than the one-way transmission of information to unquestioning students.

And after *Underground* what? At present David Macaulay is working on *Castles* another "construction" story. He has done the reading, looked at examples and it now remains only for him to design the finished book, write the text and complete the illustrations. After that, he is adamant that there will be no more in that genre. It is not often that an author who has found such a successful formula refuses to keep to it. One has only to look at the range of prolific series available at present to find many examples of the disastrous degeneration which takes place with continued repetition. So while one regrets the endless possibilities that will not be taken up, it is good that David Macaulay knows enough to stop before he gets stale.

the function of illustration

He has been working on a project for turning *Cathedral* and *City* into animated films, but is presently deadlocked over the use of colour which he considers unnecessary. He is also excited about his first exhibition of drawings (especially those showing "great moments in architecture") scheduled for the late autumn.



The cover of David Macaulay's latest book to be published here on October 7 (Collins £2.95)

lecturo") scheduled for the late autumn. Maybe a suitable text will come along, for he still protests he is not really a writer.

But it will have to be the right text, for he has decided views on the function of illustration. He does not subscribe to the popular opinion that all children's books should have pictures "to make them

attractive"). His view is that illustration should have a distinct function as an essential part of the book and that if the text can stand by itself, then it should do so. He does not hold with the unnecessary picturing so beloved of modern children's books editors. Whatever Mr Macaulay does, however, one thing is certain: he is going to take time to sort out his ideas and let no one hustle him into a hastily conceived and ill-considered project.

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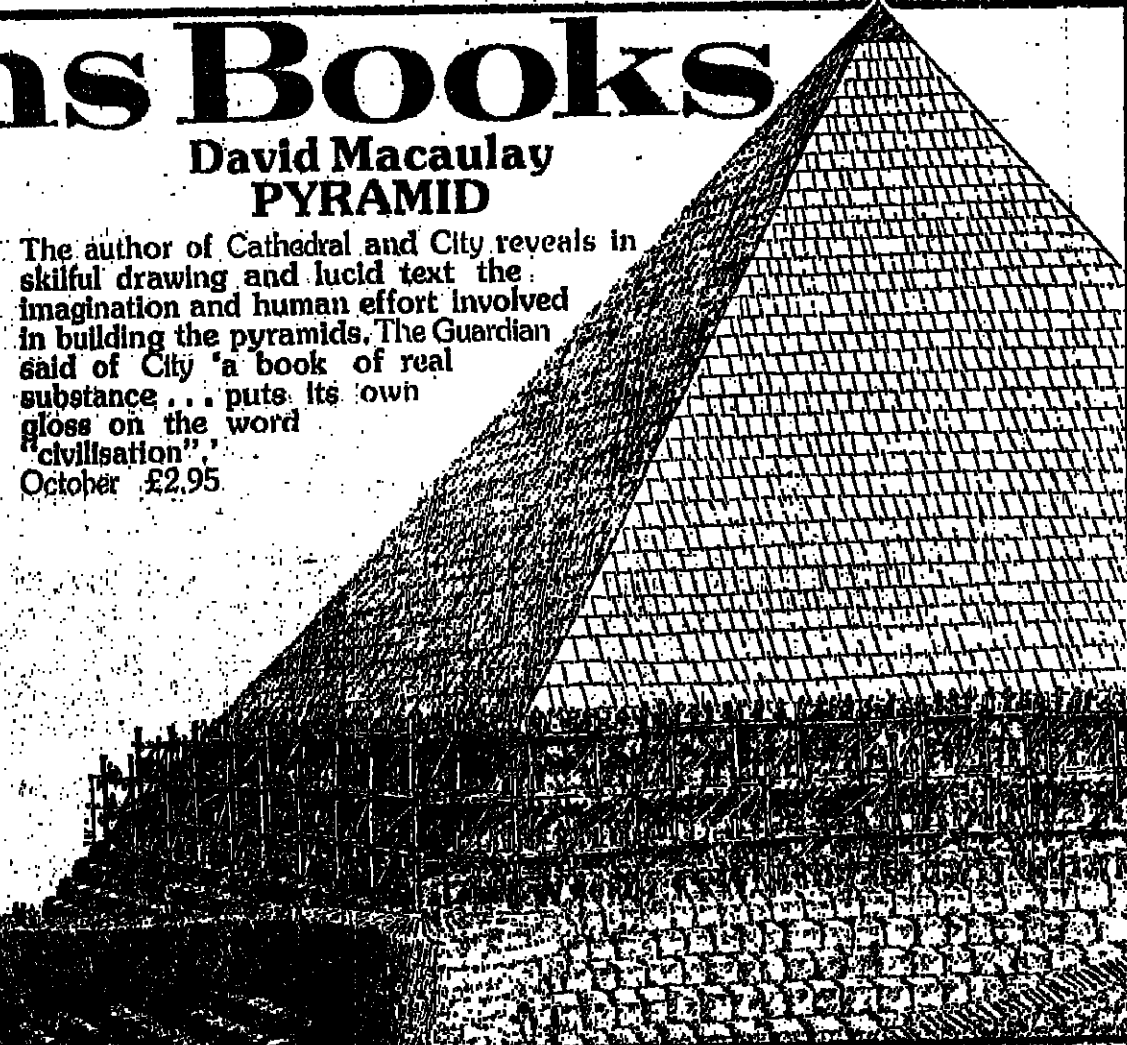
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David Macaulay
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Heinemann Young Books

Orthodox heroes and heroines

Fiction for younger readers

For those parents and teachers who were beginning to fear that children's fiction was being taken over by fascist rabbits, rabbits, or science fiction shifts and changes, the past few months have proved that there is still a reassuring number of traditional writers about.

Alison Jeazard's *Albert Goes Trekking* (Gollancz £1.95) is the latest in the never-ending line of bear books, and the tenth in the Albert series. Most seven-year-olds would find this heavy reading, but it is an excellent book for reading aloud to six-year-olds and upwards, particularly if they live in the north-east of England. Albert, a bear who lives with Winnie the Pooh, in that he operates in a gang (with Henry, Digger, Tum-Tum, Angus, etc.) but the language of the Albert books is closer to that of the Paddington series in its directness. In this latest adventure Albert visits Northumberland and provides a valuable lead-in or follow-up to a teaching topic on Hadrian's wall. Other venues visited include Wollington Hall, Linhope Spout, Alnwick fair and Bamburgh castle.

The first two Mary Plain stories appeared in 1930, since when they have been reprinted 15 times. Routledge and Kegan Paul have now issued *The Mary Plain Omnibus* at £3.95. Mary Plain herself is one of nine bears whom Gwynedd Rho used to visit at Berne Zoo, and her historical and geographical origins therefore seem more limiting than those of Albert, Winnie the Pooh, or Paddington. However, by chapter nine of *Mostly Mary* the author admits defeat, and Mary is travelling on a train like any other innocent ursine here. Indeed, she becomes quite a fanatical traveller, visiting cinemas, zoos, dancing classes, the Jubilee (Hurry, King!), and even Uncle Mac at the BBC.

The stories are somewhat dated, both in vocabulary and in narrative pace, and the omnibus occasionally sounds like that of an indulgent Aunt. Nevertheless, this is a good first of reading for the enthusiastic nine or 10 year old, and for the whimsical adult the full-page illustrations—with such captions as "the drive was me exciting" and "she chawed his leg"—provide a nostalgic reminder of those dreamy days between the wars.

The parental attitude towards punishment, in the bears' den, is not so indulgent. There is an odd-fashioned, but self-consciousness about Big Wool's approach to misbehaviour: "I am not going to try and talk to you, as it does no good. I therefore intend whipping you." "I don't care," said Mary quickly, "in case Big Wool should think she was frightened. Don't be rude, Mary, you need not speak for I've no wish to listen to you. Come here." And poor Mary went forward and found herself, the next minute, lying across Big Wool's knee, and being well spanked by her stiff paw. Such severity, and Mary a poor infant orphan!

But that was in the thirties; nowadays both parents and children know a thing or two. In Geraldine Kaye's *A Different Sort of Christmas* (Kaye and Ward £1.15) Angelica knows where babies come from: "She knew where babies came from of course, and she knew where the baby doll had come from too. It had come from Mummy's magazine. Page twelve started 'Is jealousy your child's problem?' Angelica had read it too. Having a new doll was supposed to make you like the new baby more. But it didn't."

And it does not. By the fifth page Angelica has scribbled blue crayon over the new white cat, and Daddy and Mrs. Penny look like having problems. But Angelica meets Minty, a not entirely convincing gypsy girl, whose mother is also in the maternity ward. This is partly a story about the controlled middle-class child's encounter with her "wild" counterpart and partly the story of how a child adapts to newcomers, of one kind or another. By the time Angelica has adapted to Minty's lawless character, a new baby is child's play. Gypsies changed life for an indulgent Mrs. Penny, on Christmas Day, "I think they did," says Angelica.

A Different Sort of Christmas is one of the latest additions to the Early Bird series of books by well-known authors, printed in large type. Set up is *The Unicorn Drum*, by Annabel Farjon Kaye and Ward, £1.15. The night watch-

man, Haymo, is another anti-hero with problems. "Bright light made him blink and feel ashamed of his mooney face and big body. Children in the town sometimes called after him, 'Oh, clown!', which made him laugh and wove back." His landlady is neurotic about burglars, and when Haymo has to leave for the night, he has to climb down the drainpipe.

Haymo is a character. He talks to himself, the washing, or to Mincer the dog, and is given to philosophizing and knitting. Theft is the story's ostensible theme; a unicorn drum, one of an expensive set, is stolen from Monty's Music Factory, and Haymo gets the sack. Mr. Monty's nephew, Gordon of the Smiles, ought to be a hero, but he knows more about all this than he should and Tom and Rene set out to put matters right. Which is a pity, because, otherwise we might have known more of Mr. Haymo.

Hamish Hamilton's *Antelope* series is similar to the Early Bird set in format, length, and reading difficulty, and the authors have to comply with an even tighter formula. The books, intended for the six to nine age-range have single close-knit plots and tend to show a high degree of competence. *Green Gold* by E. Sutton (59p) is particularly testing for the young reader, since it is written in a simplified *Treasure Island* style, with a conscious use of poetic description, and moves towards a revelation/climax which younger readers may find unimpressive.

It is part of Miss Sutton's intention to capture the flavour of pioneering days in New Zealand, and Paul Wright's illustrations are a perfect, almost essential complement to the text, with some unsentimental sketches of sailing-houses and some superb long views of ships off-shore. Perhaps the fact that the book is printed on recycled paper has prompted the publishers into such a generous allowance of illustration space: it was certainly worth it. The story is beautifully simple. Eleven-year-old Adam Sierling arrives in Auckland and goes to his Uncle's house. As a story that's all there is to it—no fantasy, no heroism, no villainy—

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Haunted forests and shores

Ralph Lavender on myths and legends

The Ordinary and the Fabulous: An Introduction to Myths, Legends and Fairy Tales. By Elizabeth Cook. Cambridge University Press £6.75. 521 20825 4. £2.95. 521 09961 7.

Peter's Encyclopedia of Myths and Legends. Lucie Neat and Middle East Ancient Greece and Rome. By Sheila Savill and Elizabeth Cook. Pelham Books £5.50. 7207 0834 6.

When *The Ordinary and the Fabulous* appeared in 1969, it was welcomed by Margaret Meek in *The School Librarian* as "one of the most important books we have ever reviewed," making it clear that symbolic and fantastic tales were essential to later literary experience.

In this second edition, at 35p per cent the price of the first, the main revision is the insertion of a new chapter on "Fairy Tales for children from eight to 14" of a long paragraph about Ursula Sygne's *Fairy Tales of the World*. This book is now added to the new short list, recommendations are referred to in the new preface. There is a new revision of the note drawing attention to the Helene inheritance enjoyed by the myths and legends we create today.

The new preface is concerned to place three points, besides surveying new developments during the last decade in the areas of picture books and modern derivatives by people such as Alan Garner. In the first place, it is the argument that the stories from immigrant cultures are being taught better than stories from our own. Children need to feel that the forests and shores of their own countries are haunted, and that they themselves inherit the great symbols of European culture, even more than they

need to picture the gods and goddesses who live in the rain forests of Burma and the sacred rivers of India.

The counter argument could be that, unless one has an equal acquaintance with both, it is that much harder to appreciate the common roots of humanity. In the second place there is a troncant criticism of the disastrous effect the integrated day has had on the children. This picture is certainly confirmed by the tables in the second part of the Bullock Report. If one is prepared to go quarrying there. And, in the third place, the notion of relevance is attacked, because it has been narrowed down to a belief that children cannot deal with what is not relevant, and only the contemporary is relevant. This, of course, is placing an intolerable limitation on children's experience.

The new short list has been brought up to date, expanded, and redesigned. Besides the section on the myth and legend of the Old Testament, there are annotations in other new sections of many stories drawn from Eastern Europe and the Third World—the East, the Antipodes, and American Indian and African-American. Another section on fairy-tale picture books contains no general warning that sometimes luxurious treatment reduces the stature of the story. The section on modern hybrids mentions C. S. Lewis and where, plus all the expensively illustrated, including Ted Hughes—how could *The Iron Man* have received no mention in the first edition—or *The God-Bowling the Sea* and its sequel, are annotated. The section on Greek myths and legends, as well as being criticized in the new pre-

face for being over-written and lacking in respect for the impersonality of the material; but the paperback editions are not mentioned.

For all this, the message of the first edition remains undimmed. One of the most revealing chapters there contained critical comparisons between various versions of particular tales. And it is still just as sharply clear that an understanding of myth, legend, and fairy-tale and a critical appreciation of their texts is crucial to the art of the storyteller and to the art of the educator. And because, as the author says, "fabulous stories illuminate the ordinary world," experience of them is just as crucial to knowing the world.

Mr. Gredgrind, of course, would not have agreed. "Facts alone are wanted in life. Plant nothing else, and root out everything else." Professor Partridge quotes this gem in his foreword to the first volume of *Peter's Encyclopedia of Myths and Legends*. By next autumn, there should be four volumes covering the myths and legends of the world: this one is a delight to handle, with plenty of photographs of pottery, sculpture, bas-reliefs, cylinder seals and papyrus, some in colour, mostly integrated with the text. It all four books are priced at £5.50 this will be a remarkable achievement.

After the introduction which makes a debatable distinction between myth and legend, the two chapters about the myth and legend of the ancient Near and Middle East and ancient Greece follow. There is an overview of the history of myth, and a section on the mythological references. Then the stories are given in bare outline.

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continued from page 42

on legends, just an attempt at something near the truth. It would be a pity to spoil a child's appreciation of it by a premature encounter, and to avoid this it would be safer to use it mainly with nine year olds and over.

Green Gold is something near the truth. *The Barley Sugar Ghosts*, by Hazel Townson (Hodder and Stoughton £2.20) is very far from it. This starts as an old-fashioned stolen treasure story, with a difference. The treasure, which Nell unwittingly sells to Black Logan for a pound, is a barley-sugar tin containing all Gran Porter's valuables. "Everyone knew Black Logan was a villain," says the book's title. "But Black Logan turned out to be a blatant anti-villain, who really wanted the barley-sugar to counteract the effects of his disastrous sun-tan oil. On the other hand, 'Harry Hobble was every inch a hero. He had only to look at his open, honest face, his hard-working hands and the politeness on his boots.' But Harry has stolen the gold presentation barley-sugar stick from Tom Sweet's factory, and the workers are out on strike. How, then, can we recognize a hero, if we see one? With difficulty, as the final chapter demonstrates.

In *The Year of the Blue Moon* by Lester Bidston (Blackie £1.95) the search for heroes may as well be abandoned. Incidents in this book are such as happen only once in a blue moon. As with *Albert Goes Trekking*, this is a book with a strong local appeal. Even so, it will fail to respond to chasing a pup up Upper Parliament Street then left into Percy Street and double quick into Marple Street. The book consists of 12 separate stories, the last of which any Liverpool fishman would be proud. Lester Bidston has succeeded in transplanting the traditional folk-tale into a modern urban setting, and the stories should appeal to anyone over seven.

But if all this reversal of roles and confusion of truth and fiction begins to sound too pretentious, read *The Floodminkers* by Elinor Lyon (Hodder and Stoughton £2.60). As straight a mystery-adventure story as you are likely to find, with Orthodox heroes must be modest. Geoff Tomlinson

Treasure in the Fog by Angela Bull, Collins £1.95 (00 181819 4). *The Brownies Threw a Party*, by Pamela Sykes, Hodder and Stoughton £1.80 (30 19970 9). *Eight Children in Winter*, by Anne Cath. Vestly, Methuen £1.95 (416 53120 1). *Four Eyes*, by Roger Collinson, Methuen £2.50 (416 82620 2).

Treasure in the fog is a short, simple adventure story set in Victorian London. The central character, two brother and two sisters, have been left at home on their own to look after the house. After the first three chapters, the plot is concerned with a bag of treasure by a poor, bedraggled girl. A coach journey in thick fog, a large official policeman, an underground tunnel and a villainous butler each step neatly and predictably into place as the plot rapidly unfolds. Edward, the elder brother, clings desperately to his new-found sense of authority and superiority and is helped along by an accumulation of weakly contrived turns of fate and circumstance.

The Victorian setting and the upper-middle-class home are barely convincing but this hardly seems to matter: it is the brother-sister relationships and their handling of the fast-fading events which are likely to sustain the reader's interest throughout the 80-page story.

The Brownies threw a party is Pamela Sykes's sixth book about Brownie Guides. The story touches gently on modern social problems of 12 separate stories, the last of which any Liverpool fishman would be proud. Lester Bidston has succeeded in transplanting the traditional folk-tale into a modern urban setting, and the stories should appeal to anyone over seven.

In a book about Brownies it is perhaps not surprising to find a number of "messages" of loyalty, duty, honesty, etc., as essential ingredients. The carefully observed

detail of place and character gives the book a charm and appeal which is sure to reach well beyond the members of the Brownie Guide movement.

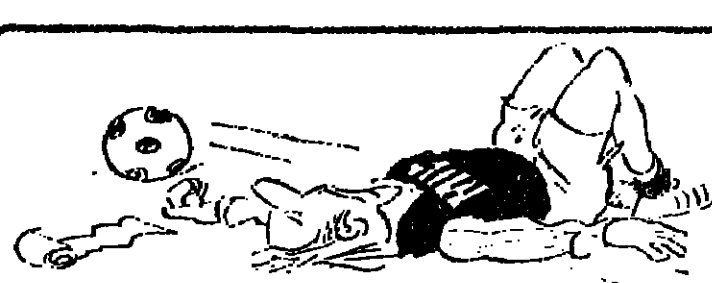
Two new titles from Methuen are *Eight Children in Winter* and *Four Eyes*. The first of these is translated from the Norwegian and is the third about the *Eight Children*. Each of the 15 chapters is a self-contained story, filled with humour, excitement, suspense and drama as the eight brothers and sisters and their dog, Stovepipe, become involved in a varied series of situations in their new home in the north.

Most of the humour centres on Grandmother and Little Matt, both delightfully drawn characters. Matt talks into a bin full of potatoes, and Grandmother is terrified by the newly installed telephone. The Christmas spirit is beautifully captured, each member of the family tries to work secretly at making gifts for the others. In such an eventful story with so many characters it is perhaps surprising that the author has managed to achieve such a convincing presentation of childhood emotions.

Four Eyes is a book which will appeal to older children, including those at the lower end of the secondary school. Unlike the other three books, this one concentrates closely on its one central character, Ronnie Wick, a boy who is bullied and bullied at school and can find no way out of his unhappy situation until he meets two people who can give him the help and friendship he needs: the mildly eccentric father Kenneth and the young, young woman girl, Crystal. Through their encouragement and example, Ronnie finds new confidence and a way of overcoming his haunting fear of Spud, the school bully.

The familiar figure of the class victim will be readily recognized as will the finely observed mannerisms of the teacher. The final reconciliation of Ronnie with Spud may come as something of an anticlimax, but it remains fairly convincing. Young readers will enjoy sharing in the strong emotions involved in the uncertainties of growing up which are so skilfully presented in this book.

All four books are illustrated in line and water-colour. Ian Ward's drawings in *Treasure in the Fog* are particularly attractive. Bill Nicholson



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Kestrel Books

Understanding handicaps

Marion Glastonbury on books about blind and deaf children

Sally Can't See. By Palle Petersen. 7136 1661 X. *Clare and Emma.* By Diana Peter. 7136 1631 8. *Adam and Charles Black* £1.50 each.

These attractive books use colour photographs with a simple commentary to depict the everyday life of a 12-year-old girl who is blind, and of deaf sisters aged four and two. Both books are written by a severely written, both give the reader a helpful preparation for meeting handicapped people, but the first writer has a much easier task than the second.

Blindness is readily imagined—you have only to show a black page or tell children to close their eyes. The experience of deafness, on the other hand, is inconceivable to those who have heard speech from birth. Hence the discrepancy of public sympathy, offered to the blind and

denied to the deaf. You can describe a silent world but you cannot articulate the idea of consciousness without language.

Nor can you convey the skills to be developed by training without complex explanations. I doubt if many children will grasp the intricacies of lip reading from this account. "Some of the sounds you make don't show on your lips. For example, pen, Ben and men all look alike." By contrast, the presentation of Braille as a code is immediately intelligible to sighted readers. The children in these lively pictures run, jump, swim, eat, fight, dress up in dylic surroundings, helped by loving friends. (No men are included—does this reflect a prevailing absence of fathers and male teachers?)

Fortunately, in these enlightened times we understand the care that handicapped children need in order to lead a full and satisfying life.

continued from page 42

in long and perambulating sentences; about the only case in which the language expresses emotion is when the ghostly death of Hercules is being related. The book appears to be for reference, not for storytelling; but the categories in which the stories are arranged are not always immediately easy to find. There is an excellent index and glossary of the characters and the stories. And finally, there is a bibliography, that quotes no children's books.

That this is a scholarly work of reference is confirmed by the range. For example, the Sumerian language is called "agglutinative", the Egyptian religion is described as "essentially syncretistic", and of Hebraicness, it is said that "the partheno-

gennus son of Hera". Although there is cross-referencing in this book, it is not clear how concordances between different volumes will be arranged: the only reference to a future volume is a comparison between the Hittite myth of Telepius and Lemminkäinen in the Finnish *Kalevala*; for both of them, honey serves to expel evil spirits.

For example, will the reader be able to trace flood myths through all cultures? The stories are given much more fully than in the *Funk and Wagnalls Standard Dictionary of Folklore, Mythology and Legends*, and although the *Myths and Legends* has fewer scholarly pretensions, the stories there are much better written. Finally, no typology is given, as in *A Dictionary of British Folk Tales* by M. Briggs.



A small monster from "One Monster After Another" by Mercer Mayer (Dent £2.50). The creatures are generally huge and owe a good deal to Sendak. A minimal text tells of their involvement in the delivery of a letter from one child to another.

ilea

INNER LONDON
EDUCATION AUTHORITY

Specialist Vacancies for Secondary Teachers

The Authority would be pleased to hear from suitably qualified teachers with experience or seeking their first appointment, in the following subjects:-

French

Design and Technology Home Economics (Part-time only)

Mathematics

Appointments will be to a Scale 1 post in the Authority's General Teaching Service, Inner London allowance (£402) payable in addition to the Burnham salary.

For an application form, please write to the Education Officer (T52), The County Hall, London SE1 7PB (telephone 01-633 6426).

County of Cleveland SECONDARY SCHOOLS

All Secondary Schools are mixed Comprehensive Schools.
11-18 SCHOOL

SCALE 1—GIRLS' PHYSICAL EDUCATION

BYDALES SCHOOL (Roll 1285), Marlborough Road, Mablethorpe, Redcar, Cleveland (Tel: Redcar 2932)

Required for November, or as soon as possible thereafter, a teacher for GIRLS' PHYSICAL EDUCATION (Application forms and further details are obtainable from the Head Teacher at the above address and should be returned to the County Education Officer, Education Office, Woodlands Road, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS1 5BN, within 10 days of the appearance of this advertisement.)

SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

SCALE 4—SOCIAL SCIENCES

ST MARY'S RC SIXTH FORM COLLEGE (Roll 518), Salfersgill Avenue, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS4 3JP (Tel: Middlesbrough 84880)

This co-educational college of 500 students requires a teacher to be responsible for SOCIAL SCIENCES for January, 1977. The large Department offers "A" and "O" level courses in Economics and World Affairs, Government and Politics, Psychology and Sociology and related studies.

(Application forms and further details are obtainable from the Head Teacher at the above address and should be returned to him within 14 days of the appearance of this advertisement.) Financial assistance with household removal expenses is available in approved cases.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Peterborough Area

Bretton Woods Community School

(11-18 mixed)

Principal: M. R. C. Jones; B.Sc.

The first phase of this Community School will open in January, 1977, with a first and second year intake. The School is situated at the heart of the Bretton Woods Community, a new community of 10,000 people. The project is unique and applications are invited for the following posts from those prepared to commit themselves to such a venture.

1. Deputy Head (estimated Group 12)
2. Head of Mathematics—Scale 4
3. Head of Science—Scale 4
4. Head of P.E.—Scale 4

The person appointed will be responsible for the management of all sporting activities on the School/Grange complex, for which the post carries an additional Community Education allowance of £200.

5. Head of Drama—Scale 3
The person appointed will be responsible for the overall development of the School/Grange complex as a centre of drama activity for which the post carries an additional Community Education allowance of £200.

6. Head of Arts and Crafts—Scale 3
In addition to developing the Art and Craft programme of the School/Grange complex, the person appointed will be responsible for the management of the School/Grange complex as a centre of drama activity for which the post carries an additional Community Education allowance of £200.

7. Head of Music—Scale 3
The person appointed will be responsible for the overall development of the School/Grange complex as a centre of drama activity for which the post carries an additional Community Education allowance of £200.

8. Head of Languages—Scale 3
It is envisaged that for the early years French and German will be taught.

9. Head of Humanities
In the initial stage the person appointed will be responsible for English, History and Geography teaching programmes.

10. Teacher in Charge of Remedial Department—Scale 2
To assist in testing and assessment procedures in the new School and establish links with feeder primary schools.

All senior staff will be expected to have full responsibility for developing and implementing the system of pastoral care through the School. It is envisaged that the person appointed will be responsible for the management of the School/Grange complex as a centre of drama activity for which the post carries an additional Community Education allowance of £200.

Application forms and further details are obtainable from the County Education Officer, Education Office, Woodlands Road, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS1 5BN, within 10 days of the appearance of this advertisement.

SECONDARY Technical Studies continued

NORFOLK

**COUNTY COUNCIL
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
NORFOLK CATHOLIC
SECONDARY SCHOOL**
Kings Lynn, Norfolk
Scale 1—METALWORK
Application forms and further details may be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Head Teacher at the school. Removal expenses are paid in accordance with the authority's scheme.

NORFOLK

**COUNTY COUNCIL
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
ST. GEORGE'S SECONDARY
SCHOOL**
Dorset Hill, Dereham, Norfolk
Scale 1—METALWORK
Application forms and further details may be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Head Teacher at the school. Removal expenses are paid in accordance with the authority's scheme.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

**COUNTY COUNCIL
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
Applications are invited from suitably qualified teachers for the following posts:**
COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL
Nottingham
Scale 1—TEACHER
Application forms and further details may be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Head Teacher at the school. Removal expenses are paid in accordance with the authority's scheme.

Scale 1 Posts

BROMLEY

(London Borough of)
Subject to certain conditions, remuneration and pension arrangements, a teacher for the following post:
TEACHER OF FRENCH
Application forms and further details may be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Head Teacher at the school. Removal expenses are paid in accordance with the authority's scheme.

REDBRIDGE

(London Borough of)
Subject to certain conditions, remuneration and pension arrangements, a teacher for the following post:
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Application forms and further details may be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Head Teacher at the school. Removal expenses are paid in accordance with the authority's scheme.

SUTTON

(London Borough of)
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WEST SUSSEX

ANNOYD SCHOOL
Cuckfield Road, Burgess Hill
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KENT

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EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
GILLINGHAM DIVISION**
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RAMPSHIRE

**SOUTHAMPTON AREA
THE DEANERY SCHOOL**
Southampton
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Other than by Subject Classification

Other Posts on Scale 2 and above

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Other Posts on Scale 2 and above

RAMPSHIRE

SALFORD (City of)

**EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
HOPE HIGH SCHOOL**
Raffles Old Road, Salford M6 0BZ
13 to 16 year olds, comprehensive, 960 pupils
Headed to open as possible:
1. SENIOR TEACHER to join senior management team and to be responsible for the overall development of all internal and external school activities, with particular reference to the school's contribution to the community. The post is a full-time post with a salary in the range of £1,200 to £1,400 per annum.
2. SENIOR TEACHER to join senior management team and to be responsible for the overall development of all internal and external school activities, with particular reference to the school's contribution to the community. The post is a full-time post with a salary in the range of £1,200 to £1,400 per annum.
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LEICESTERSHIRE

**PERPETUITY TEACHER OF
BALLROOM DANCE**
TEACHERS are invited to apply for an increasing number of Perpetuity Teacher of Ballet and Ballroom Dance posts in junior and secondary schools from 1.9.77.
This is an excellent opportunity for an increasing number of Perpetuity Teachers to develop their skills in the teaching of Ballet and Ballroom Dance in the County. The post is a full-time post with a salary in the range of £1,200 to £1,400 per annum.
Applications should be sent to the County Education Officer, Education Office, Woodlands Road, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS1 5BN, within 10 days of the appearance of this advertisement.

WARWICKSHIRE

CAMPION HIGH SCHOOL
Leamington Spa CV32 1QJ
SIXTH FORM TUTOR
Scale III
Well-qualified experienced TEACHER to develop and supervise the Sixth Form, to provide a high standard of academic and personal development for the Sixth Formers. The post is a full-time post with a salary in the range of £1,200 to £1,400 per annum.
Applications should be sent to the County Education Officer, Education Office, Woodlands Road, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS1 5BN, within 10 days of the appearance of this advertisement.

Scale 1 Posts

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Suffolk County Council

West Suffolk College of Further Education
In association with
H.M. Prison High Point & North Ridge,
Stratishall, Suffolk.

Prison Education Officer

Applications are invited for the above full-time post from qualified and experienced teachers, preferably with interest in remedial teaching of basic subjects. The appointment is to be effective from 1st January, 1977.

The Education Officer will work under the direction of the Principal of the West Suffolk College of Further Education.

H.M. Prison Stratishall will open at the end of February, 1977, with an initial intake of 300.

Salary: F.E. Lecturer Grade II, £3,279-£5,493 per annum, plus £250 pay award. Starting salary depends on qualifications and experience.

Further particulars and application forms (stamped addressed envelope please) from County Education Officer (Ref.: FJB), Education Department, Grimwade Street, Ipswich, IP4 1LJ.

Closing date: 17th September.
Applications received in response to the first advertisement will be reconsidered.

Education Department—Re-advertisement
Required from January 1, 1977.

Education Officer, H.M. Prison, Nottingham

The successful candidate will be Senior of three full-time education staff at this closed male prison.

Salary scale, Head of Department Grade II, £5,652 to £8,444 plus £312 supplement per annum.

Application form and further details are available from the Director of Education (F.S.), Further Education Department, Exchange Buildings South, Cheapside, Nottingham NG1 2DP.

Closing date, Monday, September 27, 1976. Previous applicants may re-apply by letter stating their wish to be re-considered for the post.



NATIONAL CHILDREN'S HOME GLAMORGAN

Headlands School, Penarth
REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER 1976
OR JANUARY 1977

Applications are invited for the post of TEACHER at this Junior Community Home for 55 boys aged 9-16 years. The teacher appointed will work with a team of seven and will be responsible for teaching basic subjects with somewhat dull and retarded children. Ability to specialize in Domestic Science would be an advantage. The classes are small, averaging 10 pupils. A sympathetic interest in the problems of deprived and disadvantaged children is essential, and a knowledge of remedial teaching would be helpful.

Conditions of Service in accordance with the Joint Negotiating Committee for Former Approved Schools and Remand Homes' Scheme. The service is fully recognized and pensionable under the Teachers' Superannuation Act. Salary according to the Burnham Scale I, plus former Approved School Allowance of £584 per annum, plus extraneous duties allowance of £879 per annum for 15 hours per week or pro rata for a less number of hours.

The National Children's Home is a Methodist foundation and applicants should be regular in attendance at their own Church.

Accommodation available.
Application forms and further particulars from Staffing Secretary (Dept. TS), National Children's Home, 85 Highbury Park, London N5 1UD.

Youth and Community Service

ARE YOU A QUALIFIED YOUTH WORKER?

A YOUTH COUNCIL with responsibility for maintaining and providing a wide range of activities in a service unit. Youth Club, Youth Centre, etc. Opportunities for working with young people in a community setting. Salary scale £2,122-£3,435.

For further details, contact: The Mayor, 100 High Street, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 1JL.

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BRADFORD (City of)
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Social Services Department St. Benedict's Community Home with Education, Wakefield Park, Mortimer nr. Reading, Berks. Deputy Principal (Head of Residential Child Care)

Candidates should be appropriately qualified and have had wide experience in the field of residential child care. St. Benedict's, situated in the country with extensive facilities, is undergoing redevelopment and, when complete, will offer accommodation to 60 boys (aged 14-18 years) in two separate living groups. The Deputy Principal is responsible for the day to day overall management and staff support for the 25 residential social workers. Responsibility also for the school at weekends and for two evenings during the week on a rota basis with the Principal and Second Deputy Principal.

Candidates (married or single) should have an interest in working with difficult and disturbed adolescent boys. St. Benedict's is a Region 8 resource and all boys resident originate from London Boroughs.

Salary, Deputy Principal Scale Group III, £5,067 to £8,228. Accommodation, 3 bedrooms bungalow with garage on a Service Tenancy Agreement of £219.60 per annum. Interested candidates are invited to contact the Principal (Mr. J. W. Fenwick), for an informal discussion and visit. Tel. Mortimer (STD Code 0734) 332391.

Application forms from the Administration Manager, Room 708, Brent House, High Road, Wembley, Middlesex, returnable by September 23. Telephone 01-903 0371 (24-hour Ansafone service). Reference number S/91 must be quoted.

COMMUNITY WARDEN TUTOR (3 posts) £4008-£4524 plus £312 per annum

Applications are invited from appropriately qualified community workers and/or teachers for the following posts of Community Warden Tutor. Each Warden Tutor will be on the staff of the local Secondary School of Community College as indicated below, and will have the responsibility for the running of the Community Centre in the area to which he/she is appointed, in co-operation with the Committee of the Community Association. In addition the Warden Tutor will be responsible for the development of community activities in the area generally and will ensure that the resources of the Authority are made available to the local community, as far as is possible.

Post 1
Stoke Aldermoor—Ernest Grange School and Community College.

Post 2
Holbrooks—President Kennedy School.

Post 3
Canley—Alderman Callow School and Community College.

Application forms and further particulars from the Director of Education, Council Offices, Earl Street, Coventry. Telephone Coventry 25555, Ext. 2292.

Mombasa Polytechnic KENYA

Applications are invited for the following post, to take up appointment in January, 1977, or as soon as possible.

LECTURER, BUILDING SCIENCE

To set up and equip a new building science laboratory and teach Building Science, Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry, to Ordinary Diploma and Construction Technician Students. Qualifications: BSc or HND/HNC and relevant industrial or teaching experience. Teaching Certificate desirable.

Salary: £4,987 to £7,264 per annum (inclusive of a normally tax-free supplement, reviewed annually, paid by the British Government to UK citizens) plus a 25 per cent terminal gratuity on the basic salary; free passages; education allowances and holiday visit passages for children, and, in certain circumstances, an appointment grant up to £500, and an interest-free car loan up to £900.

Apply for further details and application form to Recruitment Unit, TETOC (Technical Education and Training Organisation for Overseas Countries), 35/37 Grosvenor Gardens, London, SW1W 9BS. Closing date for receipt of applications: September 30th.

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YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

BROMLEY
(London Borough of)

YOUTH SERVICE
A second full-time YOUTH WORKER is required for a vacant post in the Youth Centre which is situated in a town of professional and middle-class areas and offers a real challenge in a person who is able to motivate and inspire.

Salary: £2,800-£3,400 per annum. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day management of the Youth Centre and will be expected to work on a rota basis with the other Youth Workers.

Applications should be sent to the Director of Education, Council Offices, 100 High Street, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 1JL.

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